

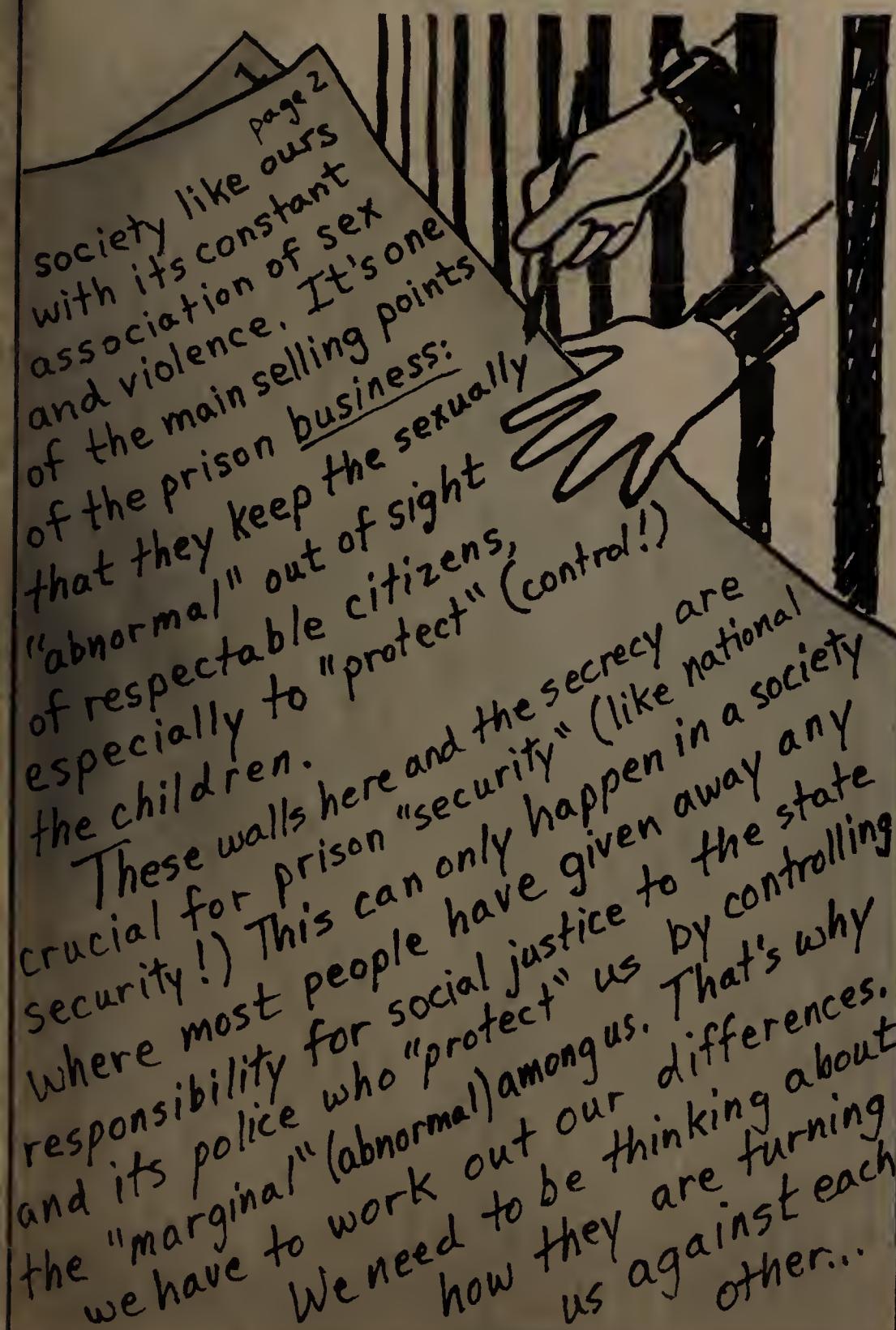
GayCommunity News

THE WEEKLY FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MALES

BIPAD: 65498

"Justice" as Social Control

Organizing Personal/Political Contacts



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20 Attend Harvey Milk School

NY Youth Get Gay School

By Marcos Bisticas-Cocoves

NEW YORK — Twenty students here are attending the Greenwich Village-based Harvey Milk School in a program targeted to young gay men and lesbians. Most of those enrolled have left traditional schools due to homophobic harassment or other difficulties. The program, sponsored by the New York City Board of Education in conjunction with the Institute for the Protection of Lesbian and Gay Youth (IPLGY), has been operating since April 1, 1985. The school has drawn national attention since a June 6 front-page story in the *New York Times*.

The school began at the initiative of IPLGY, which began in 1980 as an advocacy group for young lesbians and gay men encountering discrimination in social service agencies and as an edu-

tional group for professionals in these agencies. In November, 1983, IPLGY began offering to its clients a complete range of social services free of charge, including counseling, family therapy, and referrals to shelters and job programs, as well as creating opportunities for gay and lesbian youth to socialize informally. In the past 18 months IPLGY has provided services to approximately 500 clients and has had about 10,000 clinical contacts. The IPLGY budget for the last fiscal year was \$135,000 and included contracts from the New York City Youth Bureau and the New York State Division for Youth.

According to Damien Martin, executive director and co-founder of IPLGY, the group repeatedly encountered youths who had left school because of homelessness,

harassment from other students because of their sexual orientation, or fear that they would be discovered to be gay or lesbian. Ron Najman of the National Gay Task Force (NGTF) told *GCN* that in a nationwide survey released last year of 2,100 lesbians and gay men, NGTF found that one-half of the men and one-fifth of the women reported that they were harassed, threatened, and/or physically assaulted in junior high or high school, because they were perceived to be gay or lesbian.

Martin said that IPLGY helped some youths enter alternative schools or pass the Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED) exam, but "it soon became evident that some needed a more systematic education.... They needed a classroom, a teacher, not

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Thousands Protest U.S. "Contra" Aid

By Stephanie Poggi

BOSTON — More than 2,000 people demonstrated at the John F. Kennedy (JFK) Federal Building here June 12, joining nationwide protests against U.S. aid to Nicaraguan "contras" and to the governments of El Salvador and Guatemala. As *GCN* goes to press, the Boston protests continue on June 13 with over 500 people, including many lesbians and gay men, demonstrating at a military recruiting center here. According to Debra Chasnoff, spokesperson for the local protest and a lesbian activist, although no one was arrested at the JFK building, approximately 200 people plan to risk arrest in the current action. Nationwide, over 700 people have already been arrested for occupying congressional offices and federal buildings in June 12 actions.

Protesters responded to the first national call to action by the Pledge of Resistance, a national grassroots campaign with 64,000 members who have signed a pledge to participate in civil disobedience or legal demonstrations to prevent any serious escalation of U.S. aggression in Central America.

The Pledge call was prompted by a scheduled June 12 vote by the U.S. House on aid to the Nicaraguan "contras" who are fighting to overthrow the Sandinista government. The House did, in fact, approve \$27 million in "non-lethal" aid to the contras on June 12, voting also not to extend a three-year ban on the use of funds for military actions against Nicaragua. A week earlier, the Senate approved \$38 million in non-military aid to the contras, stipulating, unlike the House, that the money be funneled through the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Many Boston demonstrators had planned to participate in a mass sit-in as part of the protest at the federal building on June 12, but severely restricted access to the building and an early shutdown made the action impossible. Approximately 100 people had gained

access to the JFK building earlier in the day, but were forced to leave. Approximately 70 people were dragged out by police.

Later in the day, Boston demonstrators held a dramatized "die-in" in City Hall Plaza, followed by a mock trial of the U.S. government and speeches and testimony from a variety of individuals and representatives of affinity groups. The "die-in," a form of political theater, presented testimony for those who have been murdered throughout Central America with U.S. backing. The mock trial delivered the unanimous verdict that the U.S. is "guilty" of war crimes.

Speakers at the June 12 protest included Cathy Hoffman, lesbian activist and a coordinator of the local Pledge; David Sondras, gay Boston City Councilor; Reverend Graylan Ellis-Haglar, Black pastor of a Roxbury church; and Dakota Butterfield, also a coordinator of the local Pledge. Hoffman blasted the U.S. government for not having "the guts to stand up for a policy of any moral conviction." "But," she said, "the people of this country will do that."

Susan Bernstein, a representative of a lesbian and feminist affinity group, the Black Sweaters, joined several of the scheduled speakers in making reference to the recent ban on lesbian and gay foster parents in the state. Bernstein said, in part, "As a lesbian affinity group we will neither stand for the attack on our community here nor the abusive attack of the Reagan administration on Central America."

Other affinity groups present included the United Fruit Company, a gay men's affinity group, and lesbian and feminist affinity groups: Evelyn and the Drivers (named for Evelyn Hutchins, an ambulance driver in the Spanish Civil War), Positively Revolting/Chiquitas, and the Irreverents.

In an earlier Pledge action with less national participation, 559 Boston protesters were arrested on May 7 at the JFK building while

demonstrating against the U.S. trade embargo against Nicaragua. Nationally, 1621 people were arrested in similar actions on May 7. (See *GCN*, Vol. 12, No. 43.)

As *GCN* goes to press, "aid" packages to the governments of Guatemala and El Salvador are being debated on the House floor. Due to human rights violations in Guatemala, no U.S. funds were authorized between 1977 and 1984. Last year, however, the Reagan administration succeeded in securing \$300,000 and this year, the proposed "aid" package includes \$87.5 million to Guatemala.

BOSTON — AIDS activists were outraged when the Massachusetts Senate Ways and Means Committee published on June 6 a proposed budget which contained a total AIDS appropriation of \$700,500 for fiscal year 1986. The appropriation, according to David Scanzoni of the office of Sen. Patricia McGovern (D-Lawrence), included \$200,500 for alternative test sites, leaving \$500,000 for direct services.

The House of Representatives had earlier proposed \$1.83 million in its budget package. As a result of some last-minute lobbying in the Senate, an amendment was introduced by Sen. Edward Burke (D-Framingham), and accepted by the Senate in its marathon budget session on June 12. The amendment increases the Senate AIDS proposal to \$1.13 million. Another amendment, introduced earlier by Sen. Gerard D'Amico (D-Worcester), would have raised the appropriation to match that of the House, but it was defeated.

The AIDS Action Committee (AAC) has asked that letters be sent to Sen. McGovern, who is chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and to Senate President William Bulger (D-Boston), opposing appropri-

Senate Passes Foster Measure

By Christine Guilfoy

BOSTON — The state Senate, like the House of Representatives, has tacked on a rider to the Department of Social Services (DSS) budget which addresses the issue of the department's placement of foster children. Unlike the explicit wording of the House rider, the Senate version mandates that children be placed "in the care of those persons whose sexual orientation presents no threat to the well-being of the child." The House language provides the children cannot be placed "in the care of person or persons whose sexual preference threatens the psychological or physical well-being of the child.... For the provisions of this restriction, a homosexual preference shall be considered a threat to the psychological and physical well-being of a child."

As expected, Sen. David Locke (R-Wellesley) attempted to introduce language similar to the House language. However, Sen. William Golden (D-Weymouth) introduced the weaker language as a substitute for the Locke amendment. Peg Lorenz, the lobbyist for the

The Gay and Lesbian Defense Committee has organized a "Father's Day March" on the home of Governor Michael Dukakis for Sunday, June 16, to protest the Governor's anti-gay foster parent policy. Those wishing to participate should gather at the Amory Playground on Amory

Massachusetts Gay Political Caucus, said they were unable to get enough votes to "squash" the amendment outright, with only 17 of 40 senators willing to vote against it. She said when the measure was amended by Golden, it passed unanimously on a voice vote.

The Senate had previously passed a non-binding resolution with essentially the same wording. Because different language now appears in both the House and Senate budgets, it becomes an item for consideration by the joint House-Senate conference committee where all differences are worked out. The conference, comprising three members from each house, is chaired by Rep. Richard Voke (D-Chelsea) and Sen. Patricia McGovern (D-Lawrence). Voke did not vote on the House amendment when it came to the floor. David Scanzoni, an aide to McGovern, said she opposes making departmental policy in the budget, but that she would represent the sense of the Senate in the conference committee.

St. in Brookline (between Beacon St. and Commonwealth Ave.). A rally will be held at the playground starting at 2:00 p.m. and protesters will march to the Dukakis house at 3:00 p.m. For further information, listen at the Gay Pride Rally or call the committee hotline, 396-0586 or 661-0974.

Mass. Cuts AIDS Funding

By Christine Guilfoy

BOSTON — AIDS activists were outraged when the Massachusetts Senate Ways and Means Committee published on June 6 a proposed budget which they call minimal. Larry Kessler, the coordinator of the AAC, told *GCN* that they could live with the \$1.83 million, but that \$2.5 million was what was actually needed at this time.

The Senate version, as amended by Burke, provides for money for public information, counseling, hospice, home care services, health worker training, referral services and scientific research. However, only a lump sum is provided, with no further breakdown by category, prompting Kessler to say, "Great, that leaves us with about thirty cents each."

Because of the difference between the House and Senate budgets, the item will have to be worked out in a joint House-Senate conference committee. Scanzoni said the committee has not yet been constituted, although both House and Senate Ways and Means chairpersons, Richard Voke (D-Chelsea) and McGovern, will be on the committee. Voke is a stroke advocate of the House appropriation, as is Secretary of Human Services Philip Johnston.

The original Senate version as proposed by McGovern's Ways and Means Committee had dropped all money for AIDS research as

well as funding for hospice and home care. According to McGovern aide Scanzoni, these areas are already funded by the federal government in the form of research grants and Medicare payments. He said the state is "balancing limited resources," and that scientific research needed to be eliminated because the money needed to be used in other human service areas. Scanzoni said that all people with AIDS would get home and hospice care and that a team of educators and counselors, overseen by the state AIDS coordinator, would make sure those eligible for federal programs actually receive services.

AIDS activists and researchers are especially angry with McGovern, who has been adamant about cutting what is a relatively small amount of money compared to the total \$8.8 billion proposed budget. There is also, according to AAC literature, a \$250 million state surplus. Robert Schooley, an AIDS researcher at Massachusetts General Hospital, accused McGovern of "posturing" as a fiscal conservative to position herself for a future run at statewide office.

The AAC sent a telegram to

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News Notes

poetry and art for a.s.i.a.

BOSTON — Asian Sisters in Action (ASIA) present an afternoon of poetry, readings, and art by Asian women, June 22, at the YWCA, 40 Berkeley St., Boston. Readings will take place from 1-3 p.m., followed by an art exhibit and reception. There is no admission fee, but donations are welcome.

For more information, call 566-4149 or 731-2516.

concern for children?

BOSTON — As state officials, legislators, and the media attack lesbian and gay foster parenting here, insisting their motivation is concern for the well-being of children, reports of disproportionately high Black infant mortality in the state have been virtually ignored.

On May 28, as the Senate debated a resolution expressing the view that gay/lesbian homes were inappropriate for foster placements, a state taskforce released its study showing that Black infants die at twice the rate of white babies and that the gap is widening. Latinos, poor white people and teenagers also have disproportionately high rates of infant mortality.

The state task force, appointed last September by Massachusetts Public Health Commissioner Bailus Walker, attributed the high death rate for Black babies to cutbacks in welfare programs, refusal of many obstetricians to participate in Medicaid which funds medical care for poor people, and generally to "unequal opportunity for infants to grow up healthy in the Commonwealth," according to the *Boston Globe*.

The Massachusetts rate mirrors the national rate, with U.S. figures as of 1982 putting Black infant mortality at 19.6 per 1000 live births and white infant mortality at 10 per 1000, according to the *Guardian*.

Four years ago, the federal government announced its intention to take measures to reduce the death rates of Black infants to 12 per 1000 live births by 1990. Secretary of Health and Human Services Margaret Heckler, however, has recently admitted she is "doubtful" this goal will be reached.

Rather, since 1982, administration policy, including funding cuts in food stamps, Medicaid, public housing, affirmative action programs, and the Women, Infants and Children program (WIC) have created a national slowdown in progress against infant mortality, especially progress against Black infant mortality.

Increasing harassment and violence against abortion clinics and facilities housing sex education programs further restrict women's options, contributing to an infant death rate now higher than many other countries. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, Japan, Sweden, and France, for example, all have rates less than ten deaths for each 1000 live births.

national conference for black lesbians and gay men

WASHINGTON, DC — The National Coalition of Black Gays (NCBG) recently announced plans to hold its national conference for Black lesbians and gay men on November 29 through December 1, at the St. Louis Sheraton Hotel in downtown St. Louis.

According to Gil Gerald, NCBG's executive director, the theme for the conference is "Black Pride and Solidarity: The New Movement of Black Lesbians and Gays." The conference will feature over sixteen different workshops, a cultural event, general sessions for keynote and featured speakers, internal business sessions for NCBG, and a dinner-dance event. The conference registration fee is \$25, and includes admission to the dinner-dance.

In selecting the St. Louis Sheraton over other proposed facilities, NCBG took into consideration such issues as room rates, accessibility to different transportation modes and the degree to which ties had been severed between South African apartheid and the convention facilities under consideration.

In February, NCBG had announced that the conference would be held in the St. Louis Metropolitan area because of its accessibility from the south, east coast and west coast, and because NCBG sees the midwest as a special opportunity area for organizing.

Persons planning to attend the conference should request registration forms by calling or writing NCBG's national office in Washington, DC. Registration form and fee should be returned by September 15. Between September 15 and October 15, the fee will be \$30, and after October 15, \$35. Room rates vary between \$27.50 for two nights per person to \$99 for two nights per person, depending on sleeping arrangements.

NCBG is the only national lesbian/gay political, educational and service organization whose focus is development of the Black lesbian and gay community through public education and organizing of the Black lesbian and gay community on the local and national level. For more information, call (202) 737-5276, or write to NCBG, P.O. Box 2490, Washington, DC 20013.

last call for papers on lesbian battering

LITTLE ROCK, AR — The Lesbian Task Force of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence is extending its deadline to June 30 for papers on lesbian battering. Selected papers will be published in an anthology for distribution to lesbian and gay groups, and anti-rape and domestic violence programs.

The first priority is for stories of battered lesbians about their own experiences. The second priority is for discussion papers on topics such as:

- dynamics of violence in lesbian relationships;
- services for battered lesbians (support groups; therapeutic issues and individual advocacy; integration of heterosexual and lesbian women in shelters);
- self defense in battering situations;
- power dynamics in interracial relationships;
- confrontation and accountability of batterers;
- police and court involvement;
- confidentiality of the individual vs. community involvement;
- political analysis of battering among lesbians;
- community response.

In an effort to reflect the diverse communities in which lesbians live, editors are especially seeking contributions from lesbians of color, working class lesbians, older lesbians, rural lesbians, and lesbians with disabilities.

Papers should be typed, double-spaced, and no longer than ten pages. Please submit by June 30, 1985, to Kerry Lobel, Arkansas Women's Project, 1601 Dennison, Little Rock, AR 72202. For additional information, call (501) 376-0589.



rally against police brutality

BOSTON — On Tuesday, June 18 at 5 p.m., a rally will be held at City Hall Plaza in support of Long Guang Huang, a Chinese man who has charged he was beaten in Chinatown on May 1 by a Boston police officer. According to at least ten witnesses cited in a *Boston Globe* report, Huang was punched three times by Detective Francis G. Kelly who was wearing plainclothes and who only displayed his badge after the beating.

Kelly wrote in his report of the incident that he was arresting Huang for soliciting a prostitute when Huang resisted him, and that he only hit Huang once. Witnesses say Huang, who speaks no English, was not soliciting a prostitute and did not resist Kelly.

Huang, who has been charged with resisting arrest and assault and battery on a police officer, will appear in court on the day after the rally, June 19. Kelly faces a departmental hearing sometime this month.

The Asian community, which has organized quickly and effectively around the issue, has received support from members of the Black community and gay and lesbian community here. The June 18 rally will address citywide police brutality, including that against all people of color and against lesbians and gay men.

For more information, call 426-5313 or 541-2574.

staffers needed for women's center

CAMBRIDGE, MA — Feminists are urgently needed to volunteer at the Women's Center here, Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m., Fridays, 1-5 p.m., and alternate Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. A three-month commitment is requested. Rewarding work! Call Judy or Tracy at 354-8807.

queer playwrights

NEW YORK — The Meridian Theatre Playwrights and Directors Group announces its sixth annual international gay playwriting contest designed to encourage the writing of new lesbian and gay plays.

A play may be either full-length or one-act, must have a major gay or lesbian character or theme, must be in the English language, and must not have been previously produced in the New York Metropolitan area. Musicals must be accompanied by a cassette tape of the score.

Deadline for entries is October 1, 1985. Winning plays will receive a staged reading in Meridian Theatre's Playwrights and Directors Series in Spring 1986 in New York City. Winners will be announced by February 1, 1986.

To obtain a copy of contest rules, send a SASE to: Meridian Theatre Playwrights and Directors Group, c/o Shandol Theatre, 137 West 22nd Street, NY, NY 10011.

worthwhile in los angeles

LOS ANGELES — On May 10 the Los Angeles City Council approved a \$12 million contract raising salaries of workers in low-paying jobs held mostly by women to the amount paid for comparable male-dominated jobs, according to the *New York Times*.

The agreement between the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and city officials was reached after six months of negotiations and approved 12-1 by the city council.

According to city councilmember Joy Picus, the Los Angeles city government is the first to offer comparable worth pay through collective bargaining without an employee strike or a court or legislative order. Wage increases are retroactive to April 1 and will be phased in over three years.

In 1981 the city employees' union filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission charging wage discrimination against women. If the union had pursued its court case and won, the city could have been forced to pay about seven years' back wages.

"Comparable worth," an idea rejected in April by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, holds that women should receive wages comparable to those men receive for jobs where skills or effort required is comparable. For example, in Los Angeles, city employees in positions usually held by women — clerks, secretaries, and librarians — earn an average of \$1310 a month. Employees in jobs considered comparable, but usually held by men — gardeners, warehouse workers, and garage attendants — earn \$1492 a month. The new agreement will raise monthly pay for about 3900 women workers to \$1492.

Feminists and civil rights activists are hopeful the Los Angeles settlement will be a factor in the many comparable worth studies and lawsuits in progress in cities and states across the country.

u.s. prostitutes collective organizing against l.a. anti-porn ordinance

LOS ANGELES — A vote by the L.A. County Board of Supervisors on a Minneapolis-style anti-porn ordinance (see GCN, Vol. 12, No. 35) has been delayed until May 28. A statement by the U.S. Prostitutes Collective opposing the ordinance from the perspective of workers in the sex industry, and endorsed by Black Women for Wages in Housework, the Wages for Housework Campaign, Rape Action Project, North American Network of Women Runners, 80s Ladies, Wages Due Lesbians, and No Bad Women, Just Bad Laws, reads in part:

"The porn ordinance will force the closure of some indoor sex industry operations. What happens when these closures take place, as has happened in Sacramento, is an automatic increase in street prostitution because women have to find a way to eat, pay the rent and feed and clothe their children. Increases in street prostitution mean more police crackdowns that are usually ineffective (as well as costly to the taxpayer) and more pimps. In fact, the statistics point to enforcement of the prostitution laws as selective and racist, with the majority of those jailed for prostitution being Black women. Therefore, these crackdowns can immediately be seen as an attack on Black communities where unemployment is high and few options are available for young Black people. Many women in the U.S. Pro network are Black and are particularly concerned about the use of enforcing the porn ordinance to further harass the Black community."

"Feminists who support the porn ordinance said they are not attacking prostitutes — yet the ordinance explicitly calls for enforcement of the prostitution laws. They can't have it both ways...."

"Instead of spending so much time and money on an ordinance that will harm the most vulnerable among us, why not put those resources instead into:

- Establishing homes for juvenile runaways;
- Tuition assistance (so women aren't forced to work in the sex industry to put themselves through school as many are doing right now);
- Increased welfare payments so that prostitution doesn't have to pick up the slack for inadequate payments;
- Funding more low or no-cost childcare programs so that women aren't forced into the sex industry to pay for the kind of quality childcare they want their children to have;
- Increased availability of decent, low-income housing;
- Elimination of wage differentials between women and men (as long as women are earning 47¢ to every \$1.00 a man earns, as is true in California, you will find women working in the sex industry);
- Support inclusion of women's financial contribution to the economy in the GNP so that we aren't always viewed as scroungers when we win payments or services."

"Band-aid solutions like the anti-porn ordinance just won't work; worse yet, it will increase the violence, coercion and repression of women who will be first affected by the ordinance — sex industry workers."

Publishing ethics, censorship, autonomy of women's media, race and class

Controversy & Dialogue at Women in Print

By Pam Mitchell

BERKELEY, CA — The Third National Women in Print Conference, held May 29-June 1 at the University of Calif. campus here, brought together over 200 feminist women from across the U.S. and Canada. Representatives from many feminist and lesbian newspapers, literary periodicals, publishing houses, bookstores, and print shops, along with a number of women identifying as feminists but either unaffiliated or involved in more mainstream publishing enterprises, gathered to share skills and stories and to discuss (often heatedly) the pressing political and practical issues facing feminist publishing at mid-decade.

When I signed the contract, I had no idea I signed away the right to decide where my work goes.

The conference, which was organized by an ad hoc group of about half a dozen women in the San Francisco Bay Area, was geared largely toward skills-sharing. According to Karen Schiller, a conference coordinator and former editor of the West Coast women's news journal *Plexus*, women concerned about financial precariousness and depleted resources in women's print media were communicating to conference organizers that "we need to talk basic — the 'how-to's,' the business side, practical stuff." Many



Conference organizers (l. to r.): Celeste West of Bootlegger Press; Simone Fattal of Post Apollo Press; Karen Schiller, freelance journalist and former editor of *Plexus*; Susan Hester, of Frog in the Well Press; Marjorie Larney of Acacia Books.

workshops, informal caucuses, and tours of local workplaces provided participants with this kind of information.

But from the first morning, when women arriving at the conference site were greeted with an unsigned leaflet denouncing Naiad Press for its sale of portions of the anthology *Lesbian Nuns* to a publication owned by Penthouse (see *GCN*, Vol. 12, No. 40), controversy raged and dialogue continued about issues of concern to the feminist movement as a whole.

In addition to the Naiad controversy, major areas of discussion and debate included pornography and censorship; the continued predominance of white and middle-class women in women's print media in general and at this conference in particular; the perpetuation of various oppressions through stereotypes in print and through exclusion of some women from the women in print movement; and the maintenance of autonomy for women's print media versus working in coalition with men and/or attempting to influence mainstream publishing enterprises.

In a hastily arranged and emotionally charged meeting on the second day of the conference many women, including Naiad owner Barbara Grier and two contributors to the *Lesbian Nuns* anthology, spoke to an overflowing crowd about the implications of the sale of four nuns' stories to *Forum* without the consent of the anthology's editors or contributors. After speaking for over half an hour about the history of her press and about her promotion of the *Nuns* anthology prior to the *Forum* decision, Grier contended that the feminist press has misquoted and misrepresented her about her reasons for selling the serial rights. "I didn't sell [the rights] to *Forum* for any reason other than to reach more women," she said. Grier surprised many in the room when she revealed that the pieces had been sold for only \$500 each, or a total of \$2000. "I made a dumb mistake," she said. "I am extremely sorry [about causing pain to anyone]." Grier also claimed she sold the four nuns' stories as entire entities which could not have been construed as pornographic, and was surprised when excerpted fragments of the stories focusing on sexual acts were what actually appeared in *Forum*.

Announcing that she had negotiated in the preceding week with the books' editors, Nancy Manahan and Rosemary Curb, about the future of the anthology and about altering the royalty arrangements, Grier said a written statement from herself and the editors would be forthcoming by the end of June and would be widely circulated within the feminist and lesbian communities.

"I'm prouder of this book than anything in my life," Grier said, her voice trembling with emotion. "[I thought] we had done something perfect."

Quoting Elie Weisel that "real evil is the lack of imagination about the lives of other people," *Nuns* contributor Mab Maher said that even if one didn't question Grier's intentions in making the sale, the damage done to women contributors was cause for outrage. "I don't want your stories to suffer the same violation," she said to the women in the

room.

A second contributor, JoAnne Morrow, said one contributor she is in touch with became "extremely depressed" over the sale and another, one whose story is excerpted in *Forum*, "felt like she had been raped and no one recognized it." Morrow said she had been "mailed a few lines, that was my contract," but that she had a verbal agreement with editor Nancy Manahan that what she was contributing to was "a small book for Naiad."

A discussion followed about the need for detailed contracts and better communication between publishers,

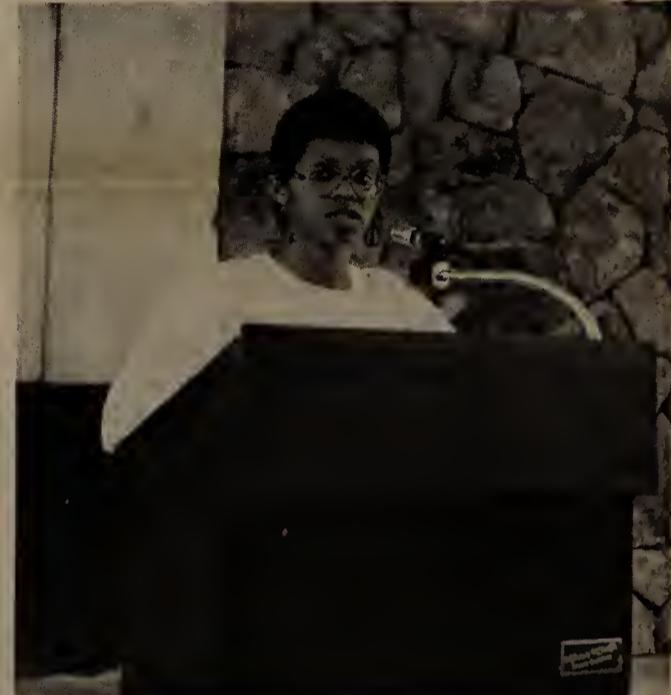
part, "We feel strongly that the lack of participation by women of colour is a serious error which must not be repeated at subsequent conferences...."

"We demand that the issue of racism be a central priority in all future conference programming. As politically conscious women of colour, we demand that the WIP conference and movement also make connections between its work and the liberation struggles of Third World women globally."

The Women of Colour caucus went on to recommend more careful and long-range planning of future conferences, with women of color and other communities involved from the start in organizing them.

Bookstore worker and conference organizer Darlene Pagado discussed the conference organizers' decision to invite the participation of all feminist women in print media, regardless of whether they are affiliated with women-run and/or feminist organizations. Though there were some objections from prospective conference goers, organizers felt it was necessary to include all feminist women in order to get the word out about women's interests: "We can't do it with 90 [women's] bookstores alone," Pagado said. This is a departure from the policy at the two previous conferences — the 1981 D.C. conference and the first conference in 1976 in Nebraska — which were intended for women-owned and -run enterprises. At the 1981 D.C. conference, controversy surrounded a decision to include projects which were explicitly feminist but co-sexually owned and/or run, with women clearly in positions of ownership or leadership. Discussions in both the periodicals caucus and the printers caucus reiterated the need for some autonomy in women's publishing but also sought ways to establish more inclusive structures.

The issue of women-run enterprises working with co-sexual enterprises came up as the periodicals caucus devised a plan for mutual support and combined promotions projects through an ad hoc group nicknamed "Mags and Rags," a group which now includes two mixed-gender publications, *GCN* and the *Guardian*. And Kelley Ready, a printer at Boston's collectively owned, mixed-gender print shop Red Sun Press, said the printers caucus discussed forming an organization that would be inclusive of co-sexual



Paula Ross, delivering the Women of Colour Caucus statement at closing plenary.

but feminist enterprises. The possibility was raised that the Alliance of Lesbian and Feminist Printers, a national organization which is compiling a national catalogue of women-run shops, might open to mixed-gender print-shops, but the printers ultimately decided there was a need to maintain autonomy. (The Alliance can be reached c/o Iowa City Press, 1801 Stevens Dr., Iowa City, IA 52240.)

Ready also stressed that almost every shop at the conference is looking for printers to join their collectives, and urged feminists to learn printing skills. She said conference

Women of color criticized the exclusion of writers from the conference since the entry point into publishing for most women of color is through writing.

session, a representative of *Outrageous Women*, a lesbian S/M journal, said she felt welcomed and was "surprised how little I've been trashed. No one has told me I'm sick or disgusting."

In the closing plenary session, one caucus after another expressed concern over the absence of women of color from the conference. The low level of participation by women of color — less than a dozen were present — and the lack of workshops addressing Third World and anti-racist issues was in marked contrast to the last Women in Print conference, a gathering held in Washington D.C. in 1981 which helped launch Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press and where women of color and white women engaged in painful but productive dialogue about race and class issues.

In a statement read at the plenary, the Women of Colour criticized the exclusion from the conference of the category of writers, "since the entry point into publishing for most women of colour is through writing," and went on to say, in

skills-sharing was particularly useful for the printers, though she was disappointed that the conference was scheduled during working days, keeping some printers away. The weekday schedule, which was planned to follow on the heels of the American Booksellers Association Conference in San Francisco, was criticized by other women as well, since it may have limited the participation of many women who could not miss work to attend.

Though organizer Karen Schiller told *GCN* she was pleased with the conference overall, she suggested that financial worries and the general rightward-leaning political climate may have contributed to a lack of "a spirit of celebration." "People are getting tired," she said, but she added that she thinks the conference helped revive some women. As an example, she referred to Black feminist SDiane Bogus, who arrived at the conference ready to sell her publishing business, WIM Publications, and left inspired and eager to keep it going.

Community Voices

paid our dues

(GCN received a copy of this letter to Rep. Chester Atkins, chair of the Massachusetts Democratic Party.—Ed.)

Dear Congressman Atkins:

I want to express my very deep disappointment in the position you took regarding the proposed charter amendment that would have added gay men and lesbians to the affirmative outreach paragraph of the Massachusetts Democratic Party Charter.

I do not know why you opposed this amendment. I was told that in a meeting with leaders of the gay community you stated that we had not paid our dues. I have been registered Democrat since 1973, the year I became eligible to vote. I have worked in numerous Democratic campaigns, and know of many other gay men and lesbians who have done the same. So one question I have for you...Where do we pay these dues? How much are they? How do you know we have not paid them?

It is also my understanding that you opposed the charter amendment because you believe that sexual preference is a private matter that should have nothing to do with political involvement. This belief shows mainly that you are very ignorant about gay men and lesbians as individuals and also that you are very uninformed about the oppression of gay men and lesbians.

The use of the words "sexual preference" is unfortunate. As a lesbian I would prefer to use the terms sexual orientation. Why? Preference implies that I have chosen to be a lesbian just like I choose a new spring outfit. This is not the case. Just as you are naturally attracted to members of the opposite sex, I am naturally attracted to members of the same sex. Just as you probably are not and could not be attracted in an intimate way to a member of the same sex, I am not and cannot be attracted in an intimate way to a member of the opposite sex. I could force myself to do something that would be unnatural for me, i.e. pretend to be heterosexual. I do not feel that would be an emotionally healthy thing for me to do in regards to myself or anyone who would become closely involved with me as I lived a charade. It would be just as ridiculous as if you had to pretend to be a homosexual. My point here is that my sexual orientation is as unchangeable as the color of a black person's skin. I am a lesbian. I cannot change that. I do not believe that I should be discriminated against because of my lesbianism.

My guess would be that you probably agree that I should not be discriminated against because I am a lesbian. Where you and I would part ways would be on the issue of whether gay men or lesbians are really discriminated against. If your position is that being homosexual is a private matter, then I can understand why you feel there must not be any discrimination and that if there is it's because we are not private enough. Whenever I talk with my father about being an open lesbian he too encourages me to not be open. He says, "Why do you have to talk about IT?" He says, "I don't talk about such private things as who I sleep with."

Congressman Atkins, I don't suppose you talk about who you sleep with either. On Monday morning when you enter your office, I don't suppose when someone asks you how your weekend was that you tell them, "Oh, the wife and I had a great time sleeping together this weekend." But you do probably talk about what you did with your wife and children, whether you enjoyed the weather, went to a party together, had a disagreement over whether to buy a new couch or recover the old one. There are few times in my life where I have felt the freedom in a casual way to speak of my life in the way heterosexuals do without even realizing it. I don't want to talk about my "sexual life" any more than you do or my father does. I just want to be able to respond like any normal human being when asked mundane everyday questions that are a part of our lives in the work world. I would ask you to imagine for a day that you had to keep everything about your family life secret. That you must hide your friends and family and your activities with them. That every word you said must be cautious. Hiding like that all the time is a tremendous energy waster, it affects a person's emotional health, his or her ability to be productive as an employee, a professional, a member of the human race. It is a very painful thing. Why should my sexual orientation be private and yours public? Because that is all gay men and lesbians want — not more rights than heterosexuals, but the same rights, to be normal, not to be denied our dignity, not to be denied respect for the daily happenings in our lives that are really very similar to the heterosexual world's.

I was brought up in a classic heterosexual family. My parents have been married 42 years. They are stalwarts of the community in the small town where I live. If someone was picking foster parents, they would be primo choices (though a little old now). I was the All-American kid. Salutatorian of my high school class, Daughter of the American Revolution Good Citizen, District Miss Future Teacher of America, winner of Knights of Columbus speaking contests. You get the picture. The girl next door. That's who we are. Study after study shows that 10% of the population is gay or lesbian. Simple fact. No one knows why. There are a million theories. Why are you heterosexual? Why are there still so many heterosexuals? God knows — this world certainly

doesn't necessarily need more people. I know I am wandering — my point is that gay men and lesbians are everywhere, in all segments of the community. You may have a gay son or daughter. We range from as bad to as good as they come just like any other group of people. We should not have to hide who we are anymore than anyone else.

Which perhaps comes to the final question? Are we discriminated against? I believe you know the answer to that question. As a former member of the Massachusetts General Court, I know that you have voted for the Gay Rights Bill, and I also assume that you are aware of the annual testimony that presents evidence of discrimination against gay men and lesbians in the work place, in the criminal justice system, and in housing.

So why do you and did you oppose the charter amendment? Because you believe historically that the Democratic Party has not and does not discriminate against the gay community? I cannot buy the idea that Democrats are so much purer than the general populace, that they do not need to be reminded of the special need to say to another group that has historically been discriminated against in our society that the Democratic Party welcomes all people and "we mean you, too." You, of course, are familiar with the large number of groups that the affirmative action/outreach paragraph speaks to. That paragraph is *not* a quota maker; it is merely a welcoming statement. By omitting gay men and lesbians, by refusing to add such a welcoming statement, you, in effect, deny discrimination against gay men and lesbians, and the Democratic Party loses its credibility for many gay men and lesbians and many Democrats who believe that the Democratic Party is a party of OUTREACH and not a party of "good ol' boys."

If you believe there should be no affirmative action/outreach paragraph in the charter, say that and keep saying it. That is at least philosophically consistent. It is not homophobic. Such a statement would not result in negative homophobic press for my community. Of course, such a stand would be much harder for you, because you would most probably make half the Democratic Party furious, those folks you believe have paid their dues. So you have scapegoated us. Not fair Congressman Atkins. Not fair.

As I have said, I do not understand your position on the proposed charter amendment. I would appreciate a reply to this letter. Saying gays are not discriminated against, or that gays have not historically been discriminated against, or that being gay is a private matter that has nothing to do with political involvement does not wash. I would appreciate any other rationales you might have.

Respectfully,
Jean McCray
Belmont, MA

dealing with fear and violence

Dear GCN:

I would like to respond to K.L. Ratliff's letter of about a month ago concerning my piece about Bernhard Goetz. To begin with, I take exception to the term "hysteria." Maybe Ratliff has never known fear. If so, s/he is much stronger than I. It is unfortunate, but all too many of us must contend with the shortcomings that accompany being human. I am well aware that it was fear that motivated Bernhard Goetz. Either I was not clear enough or Ratliff did not read very closely, because that was one of the main points of the piece. And another point was that if one does not recognize and deal with that fear, it will explode into violence. That is why Goetz attempted murder, while I write about it. Goetz does not have to equal violence, and that is why I am not Bernard Goetz.

I agree that if straight people would get to know us, they wouldn't be so afraid. But I suggest that Ratliff read some of the accounts of queer-bashing that appear regularly in GCN. I doubt that the victims had much chance to prove what nice people they were. I find Ratliff's depiction of such a realization as hysterical to be extremely offensive, callous and immature. Such macho breast-beating will get everyone nowhere.

As for Ratliff's statement that "those straights" are our loved ones, it is a point well taken, but one I don't need to be reminded of. That was my motivation for writing the piece. Because some of the most important people in my life are straight and I love them too much to hide from them. Ratliff's letter implied trust, but trust can only come from honesty, even when such honesty leaves us vulnerable to charges of hysteria. That is something I learned the hard way. I hope it will be less difficult for Ratliff. Straight people are strong enough to handle gay fears. Gay people need to be strong and trusting enough to admit to those fears if we are all ever going to find a common ground.

I find it sad that the straight people who read the piece understood and accepted the feelings expressed in it, while Ratliff, who is gay, did not. I suggest that Ratliff take her/his own advice and try a little understanding, trust and honesty. The world of justice that we both look forward to will come much quicker that way.

Sincerely,
Marie Godwin
Winston-Salem, NC

multi-racial group gives rednecks fits

Dear GCN:

Thank you for the note which I received today. You can send the paper directly on and will have no problem with me getting it, but if I do I will let you know immediately and appeal the matter and if necessary take them to court.

As to personal ads, I will pass as I have been here 8½ years solid and been without outside support from the community, though I've asked. It's not to say that gays are bad people, only that they are politically narrow-minded and when it comes to actively supporting the political prisoners, they are too wishy-washy and only pay lip service to the life and death battle being fought in here. Personally, I refuse to be a tool of the establishment and be used by their political machine and then get thrown out after the voting and allowed only to lick the odor of crumbs from their boots. As long as we are divided by our oppressors, we are manipulated by those gays who would accept the liberals' token tolerance, saying, "We don't oppress gays. We just can't accept the lifestyle of truly upfront gays."

Nor will I dress up and attempt to blend in and copy cat the image of an acceptable man. Fuck that! I'm going to be whatever I want to be, as much as I can.

When I first hit TDC [Texas Dept. of Corrections], I was a freak out dope (speed) addict, as well as mentally lazy and these redneck racist pigs took me fast (I refer to both inmates and guards). I was raped, beaten and forced into prostitution so that it damn near broke my spirit and had me believing that these people were what was happening, trying to curry their favor and slight rewards until that drove me completely off, and I quietly one night got in bed, slashed my wrist down to the bone, pulled the covers over my head and went to sleep. After the blood ran out into the hallway, two hours later I was found. Needless to say I lived (permanently crippled with a nerve damaged in my left hand).

When I came to, I vowed right then on the spot that I would never hurt myself, but if it came to my life or theirs I would fight and fight totally. That was pretty extreme, but I began studying my position and I decided that I would not do what these people were trying to make me do (be a slave, with the mind of a slave). Instead, I decided that I would live and let live. I would live with dignity and when that didn't work, since these pigs have no concept of respect or dignity in a convict, other than demanding it from them, I turned to the courts.

When I started I still did not have my personal self together. I thought that I was being independent, yet in reality I had become my own greatest oppressor. Thru the assistance of a more knowledgeable gay man I learned this and corrected this and continued my legal studies in earnest. I then became subjected to assaults, threats and other harassments etc. which I have born up well under.

A friend said I should start a gay group for the purpose of uniting gays under a common banner inside, with gays on the outside as well. I hadn't even the first idea of how to go about this, especially when I did not even know any fellow gays that were interested in prisoners who are politically radical or into getting into a real down to earth struggle.

My individual problems would not be so bad if I was just concerned with myself and my litigation, but I assist others, and together we attempt to increase the political and personal well being of all those around us. We are strong and we are a multi-racial group. This alone gives these rednecks fits. But still, I have to raise the plight of gays as we are oppressed by everyone including ourselves. (Sometimes the latter is the worst!) The main limit on what we can do is placed by ourselves.

We need an international political consciousness. But most of all we need to be out-front, not stereotypic, establishment-approved sexless models.

I hope to hear from all interested in establishing a network of confined lesbian and gay prisoners with progressive politics. Anyone can write, inside or out. If the outside gay community can't help, we'll have to help ourselves.

In unity and struggle,
Herbert Darrell Hay
263672
PO Box 38 Goree Unit
Huntsville, TX 77344

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Speaking Out

Stonewall Was a Rebellion

By Camomile

Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day: How should we remember Stonewall? What are the issues that gay people have to speak out about? How do we connect our struggle with the rest of what's going on in the world?

One thing I'm sure of is that I'm mad. I'm mad that AIDS is killing more and more and more gay men. And the government won't do a damn thing about it because they don't want to "condone" a homosexual lifestyle. That the KKK has taken it up as an organizing issue, marching around saying that we deserve AIDS, that it's god's punishment, and that we should all be exterminated so the rest of the population doesn't get it.

I'm mad that pornography has become so commonplace that women can't pick up a magazine or go to a movie or walk down the block without being assaulted by it. And I'm mad about the Army of God bombing 20 abortion clinics with Reagan's virtual endorsement. Those who profess to be "pro-life" care nothing about women who want to control their own lives, women who want to choose whether or not to have a child. And they think that lesbians are an abomination and have no right to raise children at all.

I'm mad about the little dance Congress is doing to make it look like they're not going to fund the contras when it's quite clear that they are and they're just trying to figure out how to sell it. And that meanwhile, without even the pretense of debate, they are spending a million dollars a day to bomb El Salvador. I'm mad that the U.S. wants to destroy the Sandinista government, a government that has made sure people get fed and have homes

and clothes and know how to read, that have given women a real share of power — none of which is true for our government.

I'm mad that every time I pick up a newspaper there's an article about another Black person, or two, or twenty, being murdered by the police in South Africa. And a little closer to home, eleven Black people murdered by police in Philadelphia. Can you imagine what would happen if some mayor dropped a bomb that burned up 60 houses in a white neighborhood?

On Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day, we have to let people know why we don't want any part of this rotten system. Why we don't expect to get anything worth caring about from the murderers who run this country.

Stonewall was a rebellion. It was a cry for liberation at a time when millions were crying out. When the Gay Liberation Movement was born in 1969, Vietnam, Black Liberation, the Women's Movement were not just "someone else's" issues, they were in our hearts side by side with the determination to fight for our own freedom. That's the spirit I want us to bring to this year's parades. Let's organize to make the anti-intervention/liberation contingents all across the country as strong as we can. Let's make it clear whose side we're on.

Camomile is a gay man active in work against the KKK in San Francisco.

A Hife by Any Other Name

By Ruth Geller

The problem is simple: I didn't know what to call her. "Friend" seemed insubstantial, and "lover" implied impermanence. "Mate" either sounded affectedly British or conjured up visions of Zoo Parade. "The woman I live with" was abhorrent to my literary sensibilities because of its dangling participle. I considered and rejected "the woman with whom I live." The situation I referred to was, shall I say, queer enough to many people; I didn't want to further put them off by slapping them with correct grammar.

She suggested "partner," but I never felt quite comfortable with that. I always felt like I was talking about a business. Our Relationship, Inc.

When people knew here, I just said "Shane," and they knew what they'd heard about her, if not the truth. It is with people who didn't know her where the problem arose: when I was at work (where I go sporadically, part time, and against my will); when I was in line at the supermarket or bank; to people who knew me casually but didn't know how I lived.

It was not a major problem, but as the years passed, I got increasingly annoyed that I had no simple acceptable understandable way to define her and her relationship to me.

Then, one night, our problem was solved. We were laying in bed with our respective reading material when it struck me that I wanted to marry her. I'd never wanted to get married, ever, to anyone; but after being with her for almost twelve years, I realized that I wanted to marry her. Not one of those pretend homosexual ceremonies that both of us find a little silly, but a real marriage recognized by The State, to declare in the old-fashioned way that this was the woman I would love and cherish in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer, till death do us part.

Knowing we could not do this, I think for the first time in my life I felt deeply and seriously discriminated against as a lesbian. Moreover, I felt insulted. We share a love that is very special, and yet its existence is not recognized by that world out there as valid or real. I started expounding on this while she lay there with one of those "how come it took you so long to see the obvious" expressions on her face.

After awhile I realized that even marriage wouldn't solve my problem with definitions, since she was neither a husband nor a wife. Then I got a brainstorm: we wouldn't be husband and wife; we'd be husband and hife! She thought it was a brilliant idea (I love her for her good judgment), and I gave her the first choice of what to be. She decided against husband because it sounded like something in past tense, and it made her feel insecure. So I would be the husband and she would be the hife.

A couple of days later we applied for a home mortgage. And wouldn't you know it, one of the first questions was "marital status."

When that man across the desk asked Shane her marital status, we looked at one another, and I saw her lips move towards a smile. I, too, was tempted to smile, but I knew if I did, she'd laugh. She gave me a look that said: Please? Can't I? Just this once? And I responded with a stern look that said: Come on now, don't mess around. This is a *mortgage*.

She sighed, and said, "Single," and a great moment was lost.

But I am still tempted. Really tempted. One of these days, in casual conversation in line at the supermarket, I'm going to pop out with: "Yeah, the peppers are really beautiful, aren't they? My hife makes great stuffed peppers."

It hasn't happened yet, but the day is coming. I can feel it. I can feel it in my husband bones.

Ruth Geller is an English teacher from Buffalo, N.Y.

"Speaking Out" is part of our continuing effort to provide a true forum of opinion for the community. We encourage you to send your ideas, feelings and comments to us and we encourage you to respond to any ideas expressed in this space. Submissions to "Speaking Out" should be TYPED and DOUBLE SPACED, and, if possible, held to under 5 pages in length. The opinions expressed in "Speaking Out" do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper, the staff or the advertisers. Write c/o Speaking Out, GCN, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111.

Community Voices

distorted revisionism

Dear GCN:

We would like to draw readers' attention to this year's *Lesbian and Gay Pride Program Book*, in particular to "The President's Notes" by Marsha H. Holtzman-Levine. In discussing the \$1.00 gate donation that will again be requested at this year's Pride rally, Holtzman-Levine makes the following claim: "Last year, a small group of people sold 'funny' or 'gay' money to people going into the festival in exchange for the \$1.00 donation. Unfortunately that meant that a few of you were robbed."

As members of a group of lesbian and gay activists who visibly protested both last year's gate fee and the general trend toward commercializing and depoliticizing gay pride, we are outraged at Holtzman-Levine's description of what took place at last year's rally. For the record: not one of us "sold" funny money to anyone, but we did hand it out to those who wanted to make a statement along with the rest of us. That statement was, and still is, that "admission" fees to our annual pride march/celebration go against the very history and spirit of gay pride. Paying the \$1.00 fee hardly feels "voluntary" if you must pass conspicuously through a narrow gate.

If anyone was in fact robbed, it was not by any of us who took part in the protest. However, by making such an allegation in the context of the overall issue of the \$1.00 voluntary admission fee, Holtzman-Levine has slandered many individuals and confused the issues in an apparent attempt to rewrite history and suppress what were and are serious dissenting opinions within our community.

Again, for the record: none of us have ever objected to digging into our pockets and helping defray the cost of putting on Lesbian and Gay Pride.

Many of us even did so last year, in spite of our questioning why we should underwrite a camel and a hot air balloon. We are disappointed that Holtzman-Levine used the official *LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE PROGRAM BOOK* to promote her version of history, knowing full well that those of us who actually took part in the protest would not be given similar access to the of-

ficial program as a forum for differing viewpoints.

Madge Kaplan Ann Holder Nancy Wechsler Margaret Cerullo Cambridge, MA	Marla Erlien Hildur Colot Pam Chamberlain
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no one was robbed

Dear GCN:

It seems that Ms. Marsha H. Holtzman-Levine's imagination runneth over. In this year's "Pride Program Book," Ms. Levine has included in her "President's Notes" a slap on the wrists of "a small group of people [who] sold 'funny' or 'gay' money to people going into the festival in exchange for the \$1.00 donation." Why, she even exclaims that "unfortunately that meant that a few of you were robbed." Indeed, a small group of people *gave away* play money last year at Gay and Lesbian Pride as part of a protest, not only of the \$1 entrance "donation" but of the "more festival, less content" approach to the celebration of our victories and towards the effort of building a movement which struggles against homophobia and all oppression.

Having participated in that protest, I deeply resented Ms. Levine's accusation that people were "robbed." When I confronted her, Ms. Levine said, "Well, some people came up to me and told me that they were sold this stuff for the \$1 donation.... I didn't say I was talking about you." For the record, *no one* involved in the protest sold anything to anybody. The prominence in the Pride Book of Ms. Levine's assertion that this happened leads me to believe that Ms. Levine may have been trying to make a point about her attitude toward those of us who disagree with the focus, structure, or ambiance of Gay and Lesbian Pride.

At any rate, I do urge everyone to attend Gay and Lesbian Pride this year. As a lesbian mother, I feel particularly concerned, given the current hostility towards gay and lesbian parents, that we turn out in droves to voice our fury and demand a reversal of the DSS policy as well as the removal from the Massachusetts budget of any reference to gay and lesbian parents.

Sincerely,
Joyce Kauffman
Jamaica Plain, MA

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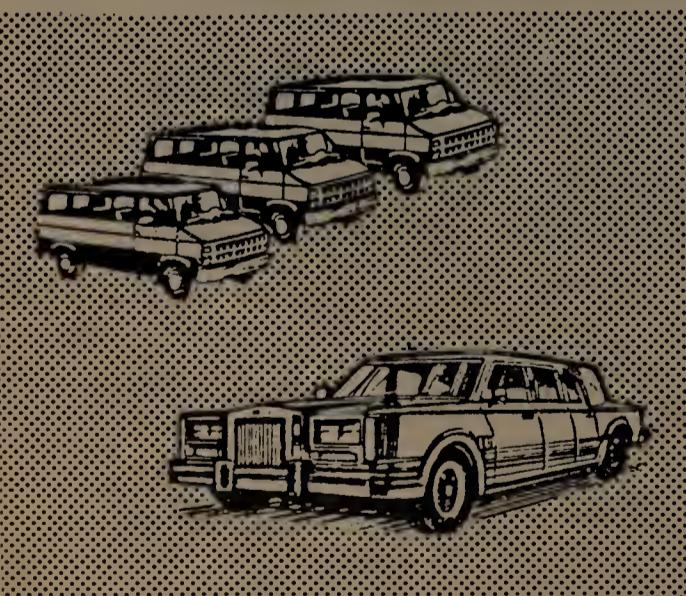
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AIDS

continued from page 1

McGovern saying, "This morning another Massachusetts resident with AIDS died at Beth Israel Hospital. Your lack of leadership makes it likely that in 1986 500 more people will contract this fatal disease."

Calling the proposed cut "a stupid business decision," Schooley maintained it is more cost-effective to pay for research that will prevent the disease than it will be to hospitalize people as it spreads.

Talking about the decision McGovern made to delete research spending and home and hospice care, Kessler said, "She doesn't have any information and she isn't trying to get it." Responding to the assertion that Medicare covers patients at home, he said it covers nurses who see patients "for about 30 minutes a day." "But," adds Kessler, "we can't get the health aides to go in [to the homes of people with AIDS]." He said many aides are afraid to work with people with AIDS because they are afraid they will catch the disease. The aides are needed to do a variety of chores, such as cooking meals for those who are too sick to do it themselves. Kessler maintained that health aides are inadequately trained to deal with AIDS and get only a minimum wage. He said a system is needed which would provide training and better wages. AAC estimates \$350,000 would be needed to cover home care alone.

Three AIDS researchers contacted by *GCN* — Robert Schooley, M.D., and Martin Hirsch, M.D., of Massachusetts General Hospital, and Jerome Groopman of the New England Deaconess, all agreed that the state needed to fund AIDS research. Of McGovern's assertion that the federal government should do it, Schooley commented, "The feds aren't providing [for] adequate research; the state is just passing the buck."

A written statement provided by AAC said federal monies have been concentrated on the HTLV-III virus with little money being applied to developing treatments, studying co-factors or developing sound information and education strategies.

Groopman said there are many

projects being done in Massachusetts which have implications for educational efforts, and studies which examine the particular HTLV-III variant found in Massachusetts, which will have implications for possible treatment.

A press aide to Governor Michael Dukakis, Jim Dorsey, told *GCN*, "The governor supports the [House version of \$1.83 million]. We've distributed a letter to the senators, laying out our position on various aspects of the budget." AIDS funding is a high priority, Dorsey said.

AIDS Epidemic Grows in Massachusetts

Currently in Massachusetts, 271 cases of AIDS have been reported and 110 people have died. The growth of AIDS in Boston is estimated to be two years behind the cities hardest hit, New York and San Francisco. And activists are expecting a growing number of cases. Currently, the number of AIDS cases is doubling every nine months. George Seage, the city's epidemiologist, told the Mayor's Committee on AIDS on June 7 that the month of May saw the largest jump ever in state cases, with 17 new cases being reported. Kessler told the committee that Massachusetts is seeing a new case every thirty-six hours.

State AIDS Coordinator Expected to Be Hired Soon

When the House budget for AIDS was announced on April 29, Secretary of Human Services Philip Johnston said one of his priorities was to hire a permanent statewide AIDS coordinator. At a June 7 meeting of the Mayor's Committee on AIDS, Nancy Weiland of the Department of Public Health said that an applicant had been offered the position but had not yet accepted.

The AIDS coordinator, according to Johnston, would "manage the state AIDS programs, facilitate the Governor's Commission [on AIDS], act as a liaison between groups and develop new programs." Although there is an interim state AIDS coordinator, Robert Carwell, he told *GCN* that he concerns himself primarily with administering the statewide alter-

native test sites.

Alternative Test Sites See Limited Business

When alternative test sites were implemented on April 11, it was unclear to everyone how much in demand this test would be. The test is of no specific diagnostic value, although it has provided an important source of information for hundreds of research projects, and although medical providers are more and more considering its use in limited clinical circumstances.

How many have elected to take the test in the two months it has been offered in Massachusetts? According to acting state AIDS coordinator Robert Carwell, 700 to 800 phone calls have been received since the program was instituted on April 11. Two hundred and seventy-seven people have scheduled appointments. Although it is a safe assumption that most of the 700 have taken the test, said Carwell, they have thus far confirmed that 115 people have received results from the laboratory. He said the statistics on positive and negative test results will not be tabulated until June 30.

Correction



The above photo appeared on page 3 in last week's *GCN*, Vol. 12, No. 47, without a credit for photographer Ellen Shub. The caption read: Lesbian mother and son demonstrating in support of lesbian and gay foster parents at Park Street Station in Boston, May 23.

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Lesbian/Gay High

continued from page 1

simply a diploma." Therefore, in February of 1984, IPLGY began a dialogue with the Board of Education which led to the advocacy group's submitting an application last October to begin a high school program for gay and lesbian youth who would otherwise not be in school.

The application was granted and the Harvey Milk School opened at Greenwich Village's Washington Square Methodist Church on April 1. The program, named for the assassinated gay San Francisco supervisor, consists of 20 students between 14 and 19 and one teacher, a gay man. Of the students, 14 are men, six are women, ten are black, six are Latino, and four are white. One student, who has since transferred, is straight. The students are a mixture of youths who have been homeless and youths still living at home, and come from all five boroughs of New York.

The program is supervised by the Department of Off-Site Educational Services of the Board of Education. This department includes 38 programs, including those for pregnant teenagers, "substance abusers," and other students with special needs. These programs are distinct from both the regular public schools and from the more well-known alter-

native schools, such as the School of Performing Arts, which are housed in special buildings and generally require an entrance exam.

The Board of Education has budgeted \$50,000 for the Harvey Milk School through Off-Site Educational Services to cover the salary and benefits of the teacher and portions of the salaries of the part-time support staff — a teacher-trainer, a career counselor, and an assistant principal. IPLGY funds everything else, including rent, school supplies, and instructional materials.

The program targets young people who are not in and do not plan to return to school, and is designed as a transition back to regular public schools. Richard Organisciak, director of Off-Site Educational Services, said that the program does not encourage students to leave other schools, and that it is not the appropriate place for all lesbian and gay students. Students under the age of 16 need parental permission to enter the program.

The program operated quietly until June 6, when the New York Times reported the existence of the school in a front-page story headlined, "New York Offering Public School for Homosexual Students." Since then, the Harvey

Milk School has been covered in Time, Newsweek, all the New York papers, and several papers nationwide, as well as on The Phil Donahue Show, Crossfire, Nightwatch, and each of the three major network news programs. IPLGY is receiving approximately 75 calls a day regarding the school, 75 percent of which are from the media. Of the non-media calls, the overwhelming majority have been supportive of the program.

On June 10, the Brooklyn-based Family Defense Coalition held a press conference in front of the school from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Coalition, a collection of far-right Jewish and Christian groups led by Rabbi Yehudi Levin, called for an end to "the sexual apartheid system," an end to public money being used to "promote the homosexual lifestyle," and a return of the Harvey Milk students to regular schools so they would not be "locked" into being gay and lesbian. In response, both the church where the school is located and the Committee of Denominational Executives, a mainline Protestant coalition, issued statements supporting the program.

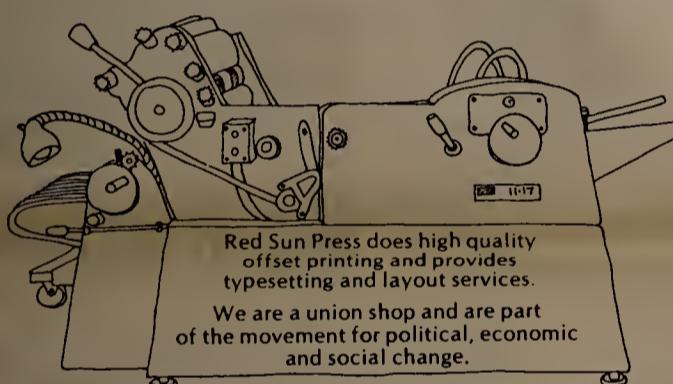
Responding to the demands of the Family Defense Coalition, Organisciak emphasized that the students have a desire for and a right to an education: "If someone can come up with a better idea than having them [the students] go to school, give it to us. Someone had to take a stand to say, 'We want to do something about this student population.'"

The school plans to re-open next fall with between 60 and 75 students, Martin said.

— filed from Boston

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JOHN LAIRD: Polit

BEING "OUT" ON THE IN

By Terry Cavanaugh

In November of 1983, 33-year-old openly gay city council member John Laird was unanimously elected mayor of Santa Cruz, Calif., by its seven-member city council. During 1984 only three other U.S. cities were known to have openly gay mayors: Laguna Beach, Calif.; Key West, Fla.; and Bunceton, Mo.

Laird grew up in Vallejo, Calif., a northern city in the San Francisco Bay Area. After high school, where he was three times elected class president, he majored in politics at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz is a community of 45,000, centrally located on the coast.

Currently Laird is beginning his campaign for his second, four-year term as Santa Cruz City Councilman, in an election occurring this November. This interview was conducted in November of 1984 in the last weeks of his term as mayor.

J.L.: I think that there are good politicians and there are bad politicians, and the finest compliment you can make is that you are a good politician.

T.C.: So then it's not a dirty word?

J.L.: No, it embodies everything I like about politics. That you could be responsive, competent, resolve forces, define issues, and survive in general, personally, maybe politically and personally.

tacts, understanding different parts of government, understanding constituency groups, working on issues, understanding how campaigns were run, learning how to work with the media, write, organize, all the things that go into effective public speaking, presentation, how to put together a deal, all different parts of political life. I'd been training for years and years. It was either go ahead and pursue a political life being open, or just kind of ignore it, duck it, not pursue a political career.

T.C.: So then you're saying that when Milk's assassination occurred, that's what...

J.L.: Yes, but it was as much his life as his death. He was a real role model; there's somebody in public that's doing it and is successful. It's like there was no one else around, no one else within my view. So until that happened, I thought you just couldn't do the two together. When I came out to my parents, which was right about this era, my mother made the comment to me, "Oh well, maybe sometime within your lifetime somebody can be openly gay and hopefully in office." And I think she was as surprised as I was at sort of how quickly it all happened. I mean the fact that Milk was killed sort of meant to me that he had to die for something. But at the same time it was his life that was a model.

knows where I stand on the issue of non-discrimination and gay rights. So the management put discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation on the table in contract negotiations with the firefighters. And when the negotiator asked them if they'd have a problem with it, they just all grinned and said, "Not this year." And it went into the contract and it probably will be permanent.

I didn't have to go and argue. They just kind of knew that there was a majority for non-discrimination on the city council. That's happened through the year. I think the coverage of the gay community in Santa Cruz during this last year was certainly markedly different for the first time in many years.

I also have to say Bob Gentry gets a lot of credit from me for what he has done in Laguna Beach, how he has handled it. He has a long-term lover who is, in effect, a spouse who goes to political events and shares the load and has the kind of involvement and interest as a campaign wife. I'm basically single, as a public official, and if I were forcing that situation more by having a lover who I brought to events, I think it might be slightly different. I think it would be perceived differently in the community if I, for example, went to the Chamber of Commerce wine-tasting with a date every year. But I don't do that.

T.C.: That's a good point. Why don't you do that?

J.L.: Well, one thing, I just never had a lover who wanted to be a public lover. If I had been in a relationship for a while and we'd made an agreement, yeah, maybe, but that wasn't the case. I have to admit I don't think I would have a problem bringing him along and incorporating him, if he was the right person, but I don't think necessarily I would do that. I just don't know. I'd have to play it by ear.

I don't force the issue a lot. I mean it's real well known that I'm out there fighting for gay issues and active in gay organizations, but it's not like it comes up all the time.

T.C.: Well, being single, you are less visible because you don't have that partner with you. So it's less in people's face. It makes it a little easier for people to tolerate.

J.L.: Oh, absolutely. A lot of people were taught not to talk about sexual identities in public and they squirm when they have to. They're comfortable so long as it's not forced in public. Sometimes during the year I felt guilty like, gee, somehow I'm not being truthful, I'm coping out. But it's my business, too, and that's the fine line in the whole thing. Early on after the media was rioting when I became mayor, somebody made a comment that I enjoyed. "Everybody's talking about what the orientation is, but nobody's ever said that you actually went out and had sex with anyone." That's really true. That's never been discussed as an issue.

T.C.: Do you think it's going to be more of an issue when you run for re-election?

J.L.: If it is ever going to be an issue, it will be an issue next November. In the history across the country of elected officials that came out in the middle of their term, there's almost a 100 percent re-election rate. There's nobody that really has been defeated once the public has been aware.

How can government make decisions about health issues, issues that affect single people, all these things that affect gay people in particular, if nobody in the government is ever gay?

T.C.: But you haven't felt that it has been an issue?

J.L.: It's not been a major issue. It has been an issue. But the interesting thing that I've discovered during the year with homophobia — which I guess is always true with racism and sexism — is that it's subtle, it's never obvious. The people that it bothers in town or the people that react to it, are quiet about their negativity. It might get discussed among other people, or somebody might complain to another council member, but they never come to me about it. I know it's out there, but it never makes itself evident directly, or gets raised in public. I suspect that if we were to move directly on a real public, emotional, gay issue, it would really manifest itself for the first time. I mean that was true with my friend Bob Gentry, who's in Laguna Beach, where I think they passed the non-discrimination ordinance.

T.C.: Is there a non-discrimination act protecting gay people in Santa Cruz?

J.L.: We have it for non-discrimination in employment in city work and actually that's something that's been added in many places in only the last year, year and a half. It just got added to the contract with the firefighters' union right now.

As a matter of fact, that's one of my favorite recent stories about an impact that we can have as a mayor that's not necessarily drawing the line and saying you're getting out there. But everybody knows about me and everybody

T.C.: Including Gerry Studds.

J.L.: Who won re-election two to one in his district and you know Karen Clark in Minnesota. Alan Spear, who came out in the middle of his term — it must have been eight or ten years ago — has been re-elected every time in Minnesota. I am going to run real hard in November. I'm not going to take any chances, and I really want it to be put to rest in some way. Because in every instance, once an initial great amount of media attention is over, people pay attention to the real issues associated with the office.

T.C.: What has the gay community's reaction been to you in Santa Cruz?

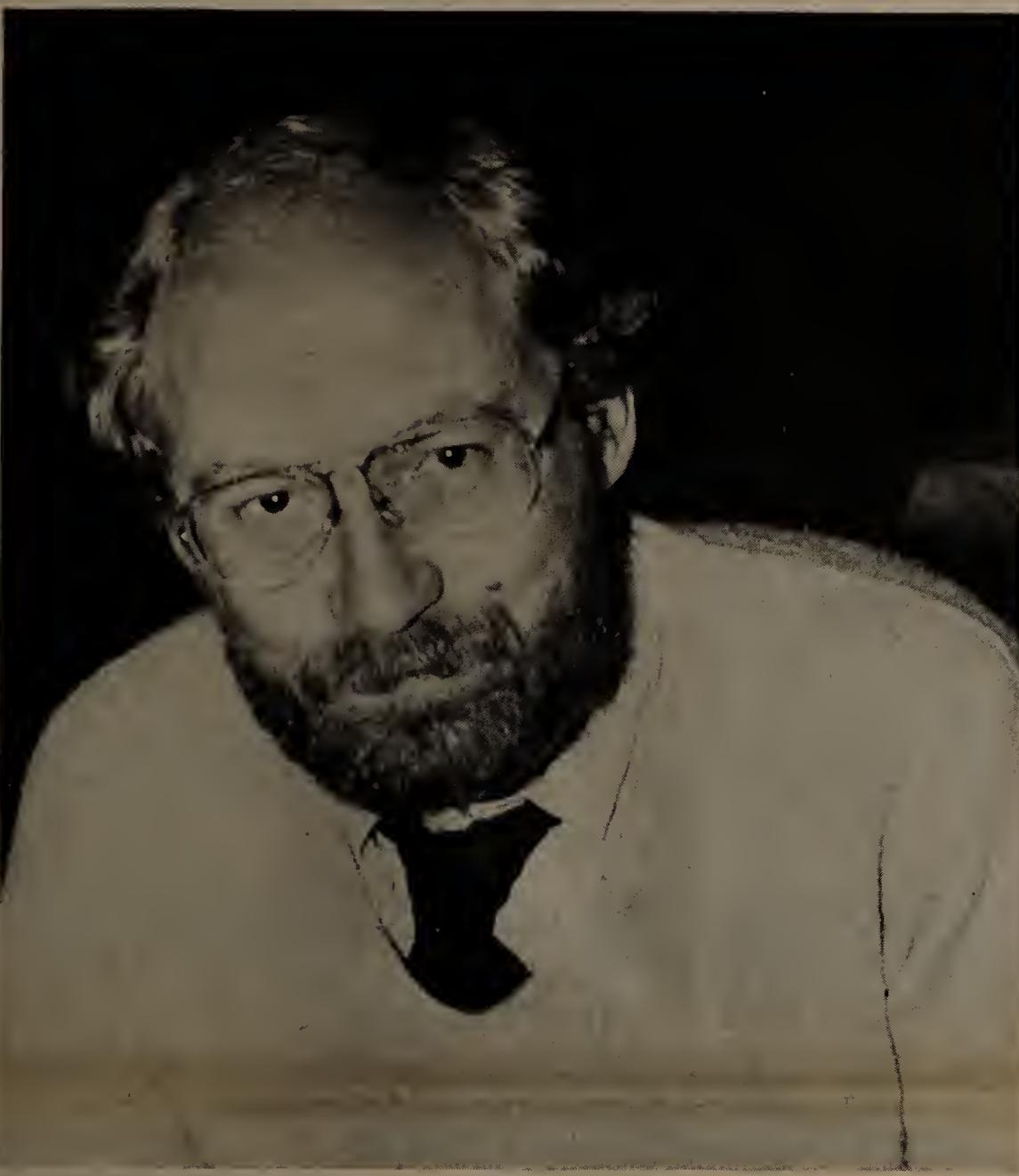
J.L.: I think it's been almost totally positive, but once again it's the same thing. If there's homophobia in the gay community, it doesn't make itself evident. I know there are some people, I would say more closeted, older, more business-oriented in town who were asking the question

I don't think the gay and les to reverse, because I don't t go back. None of us is go live our life, and thousa

I had to make a decision in my mind as to whether or not to even pursue a political career, and I decided that I was just too prepared. I'd done everything heading towards it for years and years, in terms of making con-

itics Isn't a Dirty Word

INSIDE OF GOVERNMENT



During this year the thing I've discovered with homophobia — which I guess is always true with racism and sexism — is that it's never obvious. The people it bothers in town are quiet about their negativity.

of other people, "Why is he making such a big deal out of this?" They think they were closeted, so why couldn't I be, and still do my job as they do theirs? After a while they at least understood that it wasn't me that made the big deal about it, and that we're going to differ on a lot of issues anyway. Many of them have come around. I just feel great support from the gay and lesbian community in Santa Cruz.

T.C.: Gay bashing has been going on for a long time, decades, but it seems to be on the rise lately. Do you think that's part of a backlash?

J.L.: I think it's a backlash, but I have a real long view of history and a long view of our culture. I think if you really look, it just goes in cycles. It's a pendulum. I just honestly believe it goes one way a bit and goes the other for a while. I thought that the strand of McCarthyism we've gone through in Reagan's first term was the low ebb and then we were going to come back and by the time we are in the 1990s, it's going to be like the '60s. Then I realized that it's possible that the second Reagan term may actually bring us to new depths in terms of McCarthyism and backlash. We might have to go down further before we can go up.

T.C.: Do you think AIDS adds tension or puts an edge on people's fears?

J.L.: Oh, yeah, it does. It provides the focus, like once again a validation. It's kind of a strange phenomenon that's happened for me as mayor where I know there is homophobia out there. I know as long as I do a good job as mayor, it's not going to really express itself. But if I am dealing with some issue in which there is polarization and

a lot of fear and emotionalism, that will get swept up in it.

I haven't really wanted to wade right in the middle of strong emotional issues this year, because of that. Although if there'd been one, I'd never back away from it. That's the one time I expect there to be some sort of evidence of any homophobia.

T.C.: You seem to have more advanced ideas towards feminism. Was that another thing at the base of your thinking when you decided to come out?

J.L.: I think I have always been lucky in Santa Cruz politically in that the constituencies were there for the directions that I was heading in on my own. Before I was even strongly aware of my gay identity, I was very aware

The thing about institutional gains is just that, they're institutional. Just as they can be won, they can be lost. Just as they're written on paper, they can be ripped up.

of feminism. Except that I have to admit with regards to sexism, I constantly learn more about it. I thought I was an enlightened, experienced man of the world when it came to sexism; boy, was I wrong. I think I am learning firsthand many of the subtle ways I didn't know before. I just didn't understand some of the subtleties.

T.C.: Are you considered a feminist-socialist?

J.L.: Oh, I think I am considered a feminist. The socialist label has been such a bug-a-boo with everybody. To me municipal socialism is almost a meaningless concept. There is not much you can do on the municipal level, and you are buffeted by all these outside influences. I am never comfortable with the label socialist because it seems to push so many people's buttons. It's so much of a liability for so little gain, when you can pursue similar goals and accomplish them without having to carry the baggage of the label.

T.C.: Do you think as a gay man you have something

unique or special to offer political office?

J.L.: The issue to me is that 10 percent of the United States population is gay, and government and politics here is supposedly participatory. Supposedly it's taxation with representation, supposedly power is rotated among different segments within our society. For effective representation there needs to be a mix of all groups. I'm not saying that there has to be quotas or a fixed percent. But how can government make decisions about health issues, issues that affect single people, all these things that affect gay people in particular, if nobody in the government is ever gay?

I probably bring certain strengths to being in government because I have been gay, just because of the role gay people play in society and things that have been put on them: the desires to achieve as a result, the desires to win acceptance. Those kinds of desires to be accepted have been instilled in me. They obviously help the way I behave and act in public life. It irritates me to think 90 percent of the people could shut out 10 percent, regardless of who the 10 percent are.

T.C.: Yes, but it's still the history of U.S. politics.

J.L.: It is and it isn't. The big issue is whether gay men and lesbians realize they have power among them and choose to exercise it.

T.C.: What are your reflections or thoughts about the goals that the U.S. gay movement ought to have today?

J.L.: The thing about institutional gains is just that, they're institutional. Just as they can be won, they can be lost. Just as they're written on paper, they can be ripped up. It seems to me the real key is for people just to live their lives the way they want — and to have their politics reflect it, to organize across the country, and everything will follow from that. That's what people need to move toward. I keep thinking of Harvey Milk saying just break down the walls of every closet. When people start to organize in every urban city in the country and live their life as if they are not going back into that closet, it's only going to be progress.

It's sort of like what happened with Stonewall. It was the queens. It wasn't all the paper shufflers or the elected officials, or anybody like that, who was out there. It was the queens who were throwing rocks at the cops. And once they paved the way and it became a little safer, then the political clubs started to organize and to follow. Once it became safe for the political clubs, then came the business associations. Then came banks and savings and loans.

T.C.: But again, don't you think there's a backlash coming?

J.L.: Yeah, but the thing that I've never understood — it's why I don't talk about Jerry Falwell all that much and don't pay a whole lot of attention to him — is that I get so irritated at people who define themselves in terms of their oppressors or in terms of their opponents. Who cares what he does? Obviously he sets a climate and that's bad, and that's something people should, on some level, work against. But on some level they are working against it by being who they are. It just seems to me that the real issue is moving forward around positive issues and living your life the way you want to live it. If you define yourself in terms of your opponent, you've just given them half the battle, you're giving them half the victory at least. That just bothers me all the time.

We've come so far in such a short amount of time, and I don't think we get enough credit for that. See the long view of history, that's what I keep trying to tell people who

get discouraged about gay rights.

T.C.: Do you think we are just going to keep going further or is it going to slow down, or is it going to reverse?

J.L.: I don't think it is going to reverse, because I don't think anybody is going back. I mean, none of us is going to change the way we live our life, and thousands of people across the country aren't.

T.C.: So your goals and your strategy are sort of the same in terms of the gay movement. It's just live your life, do what you want to do, but vote.

J.L.: Absolutely. Make sure that however you're living your life is reflected in how you vote.

T.C.: Except there is a large portion of the gay population that doesn't vote.

J.L.: Yeah, but we'll get to them. There's a lot more that vote than did before. We'll get there.

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ds of people across the
country aren't.**

Freedom's Just ~~Help yourself!~~
"Help yourself!"

Personal/Political Prisoner Contact

By Mike Riegle

Clearly the operation of the "justice" business does not only affect the lives of those in prison. It affects *all* our lives. Prisoner support is *not* just patronizingly "helping" poor, lonely people who "made a mistake." It is educating ourselves about a justice system whose influence obviously extends beyond prison walls, and into all our lives (and minds); and it is putting public/political pressure on that system to show it that people are keeping an eye on it. Without this accountability (which people must take; it will not be offered to us!), the inevitable abuses (inside and outside of prisons) that come from unchecked, unobserved power will occur, *are* occurring.

Best support comes from nearby

Some inside/outside support groups exist but, of course, not nearly enough. Women Free Women In Prison, a Brooklyn-based group which publishes the excellent *No More Cages* periodical, is one such group. Another, just getting started, is The Inner Outreach Club, in the state of Washington.

As a national newspaper we're in touch with prisoners from all over the country; but the most effective support usually comes from nearby the prison. We'd like to encourage our readers (I) to use

GCN's "Prisoners Seeking Friends" space to look for others in their area who'd like to form groups focussed on prisons and the justice business in their state; and (2) to make an effort to get your local gay publications, with letters to the editor for example, to devote some space to letters from prisons in the area they serve

can help them find job offers and a place to live. Parole boards have the power to deny prisoners who have done their minimum time the possibility of getting out if they can't offer some evidence of contacts or support from the community. Women Free Women In Prison offers the following suggestions.

refuse to acknowledge that the large majority of murders and rape take place within the family. When they speak of murder, they don't question the amount of money they endorse spending on military build-up. And they speak of robbery but don't mention white collar crime which accounts for more money than people steal

Prisoner support is not just patronizingly "helping" poor, lonely people who "made a mistake." It is educating ourselves about a justice system whose influence extends beyond prison walls, and into all our lives (and minds)...

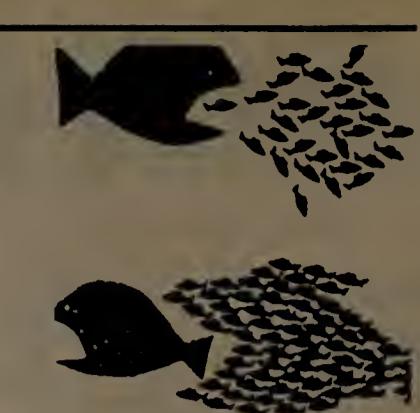
and also to allow some free penpal ads (as "filler" in the classifieds at least), so more local contacts can be made between insiders and outsiders (for possible visits and coming out support especially).

Lesbians and gay men often spend a year or more of extra time in prison just because they have no contacts on the outside who

Military murder and family rape
We hear a lot of talk about "anti-crime" from politicians. There is a stronger push towards the death penalty in states that don't already have it. The same politicians that speak about "anti-crime" and building more prisons are the ones that endorse the Family Protection Act. They

to attain their survival needs. They don't provide needed jobs, yet they lock people up for trying to get money to stay alive.

Progressive forces have largely ignored the issues of prisons and psychiatric incarceration, with the exception of a few "political prisoners." ALL prisoners are, in fact, political prisoners and until



we acknowledge that, we are also using divide and conquer tactics against prisoners organizing. Prison issues are directly linked to every aspect of social and political prejudice and oppression.

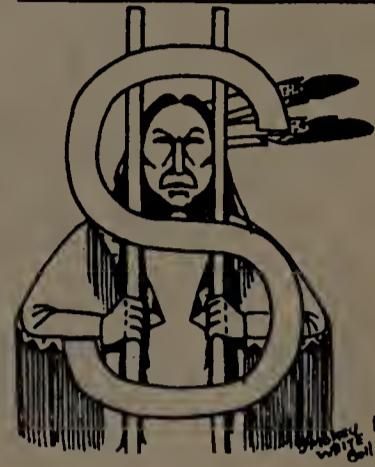
What we can do

Make contact with people inside. Get names of women or men inside through already existing support groups. Find out if there are groups in the prison that meet with outside people to work on education or other issues. Find out if lawyers are involved with any prisoners rights cases. Write to people inside, get on their visiting lists, find out exactly what's going on there.

Start prisoner support groups that can spread the word among people outside about what is going on in prisons and with the judicial process generally. Educate yourselves about who makes the laws and what their vested interests are.

Focus on specific issues at the prisons near you: medical conditions, legal access, forced druggings, hiring of Ku Klux Klan members as guards, lack of vocational training, etc.

continued on next page



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continued from last page

Start petition and letter-writing campaigns. Put pressure on people in power. Don't underestimate the influence of letters on prison administrators, judges, congresspeople, the Bureau of Prisons, religious organizations, political groups, etc.

Use the media, in all its forms, to reach people. Put pressure on

They speak of robbery but don't mention that white collar crime accounts for more money than people steal to survive.

area, write GCN Prisoner Project and we'll look through our resource list. If you know of such groups, please let us know too.

The Inner Outreach Club is a "non-profit corporation" whose purpose includes charitable and educational activities, assisting those who are in or have been recently released from incarceration in prisons and jails and who have no family or friends who can or will assist them with the various aspects necessary for release from prison and re-entry into society. We do this without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, sex

We will be happy to furnish information and add your name to our mailing list. Those who desire to participate or contribute in any way should write: The Inner Outreach Club, 4250 Whitman Ave. N. No. 2, Seattle, WA 98103. It is anticipated that a newsletter will be developed for regular publication.

All of us

As the No More Cages group says: We must understand and fight against the tactics of incarceration used in prisons and psychiatric institutions, not only in solidarity with our sisters and brothers inside, but also because these tactics are tested to be used against whole masses of people — all of us.

Let's educate ourselves about who makes the laws and does the lobbying and what their vested interests are.

the radical press to cover what is happening in prisons and in the movement. Make contact with sympathetic members of the straight press and put pressure on them to cover prison issues. Publish the letters and articles of women and men inside and distribute them as widely as possible outside.

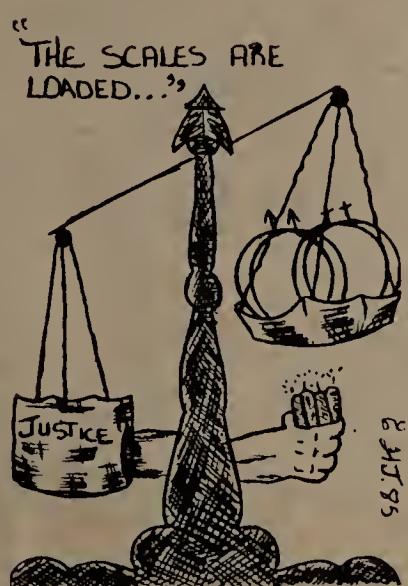
Inner Outreach Club

This is an example of a group that happens to be getting itself together at this time in Washington state. To find out if there are any such groups in your

or sexual orientation.

Initially, activities began by correspondence with those prisoners who wanted to obtain penpals among those in society. It was soon evident that there was still a huge empty space in which no help was being afforded: assistance with planning for parole, employment, housing and such "coming out" matters. Individuals and businesses learning of our interest in providing these services began to offer their assistance.

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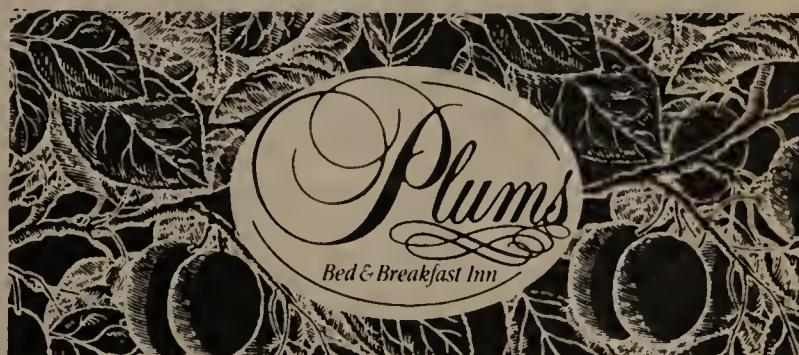
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3LF's sk 4th 26+ for spacious, stable JP home w/ porches, yard, garden. Near T, semi-coop. Min alc/drugs. No smoke, no more pets. Avail. Aug. 1, negot. earlier. \$235+. 522-7446 (49)

LF 24 seeks LF 22-30 to share Ig. mod, 2 bdrm apt. Lovely view. Inman Square area. Lease avail 8/1. \$305+ cheap electric heat. 492-5121 (50)

GM seeks same to share 2 bdrm apt. in Dorchester close to Savin Hill T. \$250/mo plus 1/2 util. Call Ed at 265-2744 leave message. (48)

HARVARD SQUARE

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Woman to share beat 7 room farm-house in Rosl. near Arb. Sun, trees, skylight. 2 rooms are yours. No drugs, dogs. Cat ok. \$300+. I'm 32, pianist 327-3367 Dovida (48)

LF cpl seek cpl or 2 LF's to share 6 bedroom, 2 floor house in JP near T. Sober hsehold. No more pets please. Call Kate or Kim 522-9094 eves. Leave message \$175+ August 1st. (48)

Lesbian, 25, seeking same in Davis Square. \$250/month plus util. Smoking ok. Jayne (evenings) 623-0857. (c)

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3 warm, indep. LF's seek resp. 4th for large Jamaica Plain house. Near T. Frpl. (heat with wood), beautiful yard, washer, parking. No smoke, pets. \$175+. Call 524-7390. (c)

3 women with house in Newton Centre looking for 2 people to share home coop food and 1 cat. Starts immediately. Call 969-3793. (c)

GM 31 sks GM for Savin Hill 3 bdrm apt. Near T and ocean. Rent and utilities about \$215/mo. Sec. deposit. Call Dan 338-7037 (44)

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LF 30+ wanted for Ig. 3 br on edge of JP. Must be mature and considerate. We are 2 LF's 28 & 30. we are quiet & like books, music and cats. Rent \$185+ util. Call and let's talk. Cindy. 566-1345 eves. 247-7517 days. (48)

GM couple seeks stable, responsible, neat person 18-22 to share 3 bdrm apt. 2 blocks from Revere T and beach. \$167/mo + utils. Call 286-1778 (48)

BROOKLINE

2 LF seek roommate for spacious 3 bedroom apt. close to T. Pets are ok. Rent is \$283 inc. heat and hot H2O. Call 277-2673. (48)

CAMBRIDGE—SOMERVILLE

Middle-aged, bisexual man wishes to share small apartment with stable, emotionally mature, financially responsible, communicative, considerate and cooperative person or couple. No pets or drugs please. Call David at 923-0082 at any hour. (c)

L seeks two others for Camb. sublet, July 1-Sept. 1. Between Inman and Harvard, sunny, yard, washer, no pets, no smoking. \$175/month. Call Stephanie at 426-4469. (c)

LF 33 seeks LF fr 7 room house near T in integrated nbhd of Dorchester. Yd., washer. Must be neat \$230+. Call 265-7860. (c)

Share a 3 bedrom home. Partially furnished, laundry, Ig. yard, quiet neighborhood, deck in back. Allston of N. Harvard St. Call 787-4196 \$350 inc. some bills. Ask for Siri. Lesbians pref. 7/1. (48)

HOUSING SOUGHT

GCN F staff member looking for an apt. or house to share with 1 or 2 others, M or F, pref. 30+ but let's talk. Camb./Som.(would consider JP). Under \$200/mo. Ask for Pam at 426-4469. (c)

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LF grad student seeks apt./room for all/part of July. I can't pay much rent but will trade apt. in Phila., care for pets/plant, guard house. Any help appreciated. Call Libby at (215) 726-1313 evenings. (48)

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GCN staffer in need of sleeping bag. If you have one in your "attic" that you'll never use, let me know. I'll pay parcel postage to ship. Thanks, Mike.

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Pride For Days...

a calendar of events during
gay and lesbian pride weeks
june 1985



Join the "Hike for Life" on June 22.

Saturday, June 15

"The AIDS Show," vignettes both educational and entertaining. A benefit for the Boston AIDS Action Committee. A winner of San Francisco's famed Cable Car Award. Show times are 8:00PM Friday and Saturday, and 2:00PM and 8:00PM on Sunday. At Boston's Little Theater, 261 Tremont Street (next to the Shubert Theatre), Boston. Tickets: \$12.50 from the AIDS Action Committee, 16 Haviland St., Boston 02115, 536-7733.

"Gay Pride Day Dance" to celebrate Buddies 6th Anniversary and to benefit the AIDS Action Committee. The Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston. 8PM. Tickets: \$5 at the door, \$3 in advance at the Cyclorama box office, Fenway Community Health Center, or Box Office Video.

"Gay Community News Annual Pride Picnic Supper on the Esplanade." Join us after the Festival, just up the river from the pink Fiedler cross-walk, near the Hatch Shell. Bring yummy delights and other amusements. All old and new friends and volunteers are invited. For more details call GCN at 426-4469.

"Amethyst Women's Dance," to celebrate Lesbian/Gay Pride. First Congregational Church, 11 Garden Street, Cambridge. Wheelchair accessible, child care provided. \$4.00 donation, more if/less if. This is a drug- and alcohol-free event for lesbians and their women friends. For more information, please call 666-4864.

Sunday, June 16

"Pride Day Cruise," a benefit for the Boston Lesbian/Gay Pride Celebration Planning Committee. Leaves Boston at 11:30AM and arrives in Provincetown at 3:30PM. Leaves Provincetown at 7:30PM and arrives back in Boston at 11:30PM. Complimentary buffet lunch and disco dancing aboard. Cash bar. Tea dance at the Boatslip in Provincetown. Late-night snack on the way home. Checkroom on board for storing jackets, bags, etc. Tickets are \$25.00 in advance, \$30.00 at the boat. Leaves from Pier 4, Charlestown (adjacent to the U.S.S. Constitution). Advance tickets available at Forex Travel, 76 Arlington St.; Buddies, 733 Boylston Street; Fritz, corner of Berkeley and Chandler Streets; and Box Office Video, 160 Newbury Street.

"Sexy Readings," from current issues of *Fag Rag/Bad Attitude* magazines. A benefit for London, England's Gay's the Word Bookstore (under attack by the Thatcher government). \$3.00 donation. 5:00PM at Glad Day Bookshop, 43 Winter Street, Boston (Downtown Crossing, near Park Street "T" stop).

"Come on Get Happy!" gay pride concert by the Boston Gay Men's Chorus. At Jordan Hall, the New England Conservatory. Concert is at 8:00PM. Tickets are \$6.00/\$8.00/\$10.00. Purchase tickets in advance at the Jordan Hall Box Office, Bostix, ConcertCharge, and Glad Day Bookshop. For more information, please call 536-2412.

"The AIDS Show," see listing under June 15.

Tuesday, June 18

"BL/GPA Quarterly Meeting, with guest speaker Brian McNaught. "The Personal is Political." The Jackson-Mann School, 500 Cambridge Street (Union Square), Allston.

"Gay Pride Poetry and Fiction reading," sponsored by Cambridge Lesbian and Gay Alliance. Featuring Stephen Cramer, E.J. Graff, Rudy Kikel, Arthur Lipkin and the women of *Outrageous Women*. The reading will be held at 186 Hampshire St., Inman Square. Donation: \$3. For more information, call Stewart at 547-0295.

Wednesday, June 19

"Gay Rites: Choosing our Spirituality," a panel discussion with lesbian and gay clergy and lay people. Sponsored by the Greater Boston Lesbian & Gay Interfaith Coalition. Free to all people. 7:30PM at the Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge. Please call 497-8293 for more information.

"Family Reunion," a gathering for gay people who were politically active in the late '60s and early '70s. 7:30PM to 10:00PM at 600 Washington Street, Boston — 2nd Floor (Gay & Lesbian Counseling Service). For more information, please contact Ann Maguire at 725-3307, daytime.

Thursday, June 20

"Gay History," topic of an open meeting for gay people under 22. Sponsored by GALLYNS (Gay & Lesbian Liberated Youth of the North Shore). Free. 7:30PM to 10:00PM. Haverhill, MA. Call 373-7618 for more information and directions. GALLYNS is a drug- and alcohol-free group run by gay youth for gay youth.

Saturday, June 22

"Hike for Life '85," sponsored by the Chiltern Mountain Club. An annual benefit for the AIDS Action Committee. An 8-mile hike in the Blue Hills Reservation in Milton, MA. Carpooling available at 8:30AM in front of the Arlington Street Church, Boston. Hike starts at 9:00AM from the Blue Hills Ski Area, near Exit 64N off of Route 128 (05). For more information, please write to Chiltern Mountain Club, P.O. Box 407, Boston, MA 02117, or call 536-7733.

"Worcester 1st Annual Lesbian/Gay Pride Day." Meet at the "Metro" parking lot — begins at 1:00PM. Speakers, music, food and refreshments.

Burlington, Vermont's Third Annual March and Rally in celebration of Lesbian and Gay Pride. Meet at City Hall. Park at 1:00PM for the rally. Keynote speaker is Dale McCormick of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance. March follows at 2:00PM. At 4:00PM there will be a barbecue and social exchange at Oak Ledge Park. The final weekend showing of the documentary *The Times of Harvey Milk* will be at 8:00PM. For more information, please call (802) 862-8563.

Providence Gay Pride Day — "Our Strength is Coming Out:" Meet at Cathedral Square by 11:30AM to line up. march starts at noon and proceeds to the State House. A rally follows at 1:00PM. Later that evening the Pride Committee will sponsor a "cruise to nowhere." For more information, please call (401) 351-4895.

Wednesday, June 26

"Annual Lesbian/Gay Community Town Meeting," sponsored by the Boston Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee. The topic of this annual meeting will be "Gays & Lesbians as Parents." The forum will be held at U.Mass/Park Square, 100 Arlington St., Boston, room 222 at 7:30PM. It will be interpreted for the hearing impaired and wheelchair accessible. All people are welcome. For more information call 889-4777.

Saturday, June 29

"The Families We Choose," the premiere of a new video documentary about lesbian families, 7 Temple Street, Central Square, Cambridge. Two presentations, 7:00PM and 9:00PM. Tickets: \$3 at New Words Bookstore in Cambridge and at Food for Thought, Jamaica Plain or at the door. Wheelchair accessible and interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Hartford 4th Annual Lesbian/Gay Pride Celebration — You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet. Assemble at 11:30AM at the State Capitol. Rally begins at noon, then the march steps off at 1:00PM and proceeds to the Old State House. Festival from 1:30PM to 4:30PM with music, food, entertainment, beverages and much more. For more information, please call (203) 246-0674.

Sunday, June 30

New York City 15th Annual Lesbian/Gay Pride March and Rally, sponsored by the Heritage of Pride. The theme is "You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet." Meet at Columbus Circle by 11:00AM, march leaves promptly at 12:30PM. Join as hundreds of thousands of lesbians, gay men, and their allies march down Fifth Avenue to Greenwich Village, down Christopher Street past the location of the Stonewall Bar where lesbians and gay men rioted against police harassment and triggered the gay and lesbian liberation movement of the past 15 years. Rally site is at the bottom of Christopher Street overlooking the Hudson River.

AVEROF ON TREMONT

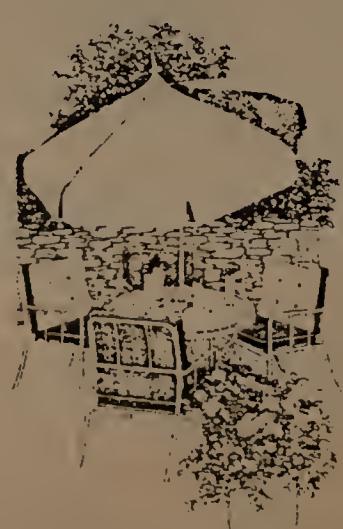
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CALENDAR

**June 15
to
June 29**

15 saturday

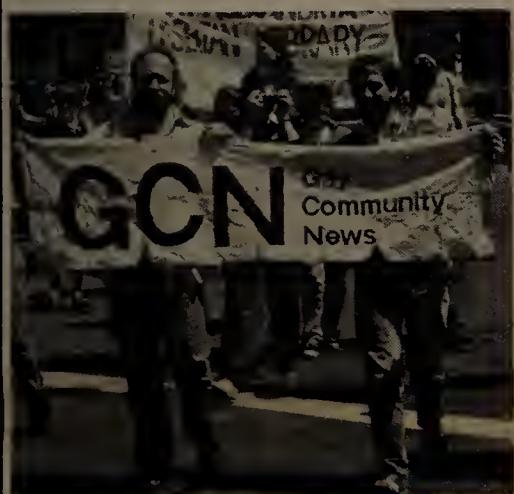
Boston — Gay and Lesbian Pride! Take off from Copley Square at noon. See Pride Calendar opposite page for details.

Cambridge — Lesbian films: *On Guard*, *Farewell to Charms* and *Tread Softly*. Angry Arts, YWCA, Temple St., Central Sq. 7:30PM. \$2.75. Also playing Sun. Info: 522-1058.

Boston — The New Ehrlich Theatre presents "Slag" by David Hare. 539 Tremont St., Boston Center for the Arts. 8PM Wed.-Sat. & Sun. afternoons until June 29. \$6. Info: 482-6316.

Boston — Lesbian and Gay **Pride Parade** cablecast. BNN TV, Channel A3. 6-8PM. Show will be repeated on Thursday, June 27, from 6-8PM.

Boston — "Still Life with Stein" and "Baby Steps," followed by Dance Party. Mobius, 354 Congress St. 8PM. \$10. Info: 542-7416 or 491-6009.



Look for GCN's banner at Gay and Lesbian Pride, June 15.

16 sunday

Brookline — March to Gov. Dukakis' home to protest state policy against **gay foster parenting**. Meet at Amory St. park between Comm. Ave. and Beacon St. 2PM. Info: Gay & Lesbian Defense Committee, 396-0586 or 497-5999.

Cambridge — "Women, dance with your sisters," a poetry reading by Stacie Samson. 2PM. Rising Phoenix Gallery, 244 Columbia St. Info: 492-7522.

Boston — Red Hearts monthly potluck brunch for leftward-leaning gay men. Info: Clay, 547-5166.

Waltham — **Beginners' Canoe Outing** for women. 10AM. \$10. Sponsored by Wild Women of Daughters of Bilitis. Info: Mimi, 924-1543.

Boston — "A Jail Without Bars and Guards," a sermon by Manuel Hernandez. Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Copley Square. 11AM.

Watertown — Gays & Lesbians of Watertown neighborhood meeting. 7PM. Info: 926-5371 or 783-1633, or write, GLOW, PO Box 373, New Town Branch 02258.

17 monday

Provincetown — **Lesbian Whale Watch**, sponsored by *Womantide* magazine. The "Dolphin VI" sails from MacMillan Wharf at 2:30PM. \$15 adults/\$10 children. Tickets can be purchased at Womancrafts.

18 tuesday

Watertown — GLOW, Gays & Lesbians of Watertown, get-together and meeting. 7PM. Info: 926-5371



The Boston Gay Men's Chorus, June 16

Boston — "Flow My Tears, The Policeman Said," performed by **Mobou Mines**. Boston Shakespeare Company Theatre, 52 St. Botolph St. 8PM. Continues through Sunday. \$14 & \$12, students & seniors \$12 & \$8. Info: 267-5600.

Boston — **Gay Pride TV special**: Access Channel A3 (Cable), "Gay Boston." 6-8PM. Repeating: June 27, 7PM.

19 wednesday

Cambridge — Susan Abod in concert with Janet Hood on piano. Ryles Upstairs, 212 Hampshire St., Inman Square. 9PM. \$4.

Cambridge — Girls' Night Out to perform. Jonathan Swift's, 30b Boylston St. Info: 661-9887.

20 thursday

Boston — GCN's production night when articles are proofread and pasted up. Join the fun; read tomorrow's news today. 5-8PM for proofing, 7:30-midnight for lay-out. 167 Tremont St. (near Park and Boylston "T") GCN: 426-4469.

Cambridge — Sun Song, storytelling by Jennifer Justice to celebrate Summer Solstice. New Words Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St., Inman Sq. Two shows: 7 and 9PM. \$5. Info: 776-4514.

Cambridge — Drop-in discussion for women with incest histories: topic, "Support/Endings." Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Central Sq. Info: Incest Resources, 492-1818.

Mission Hill — Nicaraguan brigades informational meeting. Parker Hill Library, 1497 Tremont St. 6PM. Info: 492-8699.

21 friday

Boston — GCN's VOLUNTEER NIGHT: come help send the paper to our subscribers. Refreshments & good times. Anytime after 6PM. 167 Tremont St. (near Park and Boylston "T") To be let in, buzz GCN's intercom outside the street entrance. GCN: 426-4469.

Boston — Barbeque party for Jewish women and their friends sponsored by the Jewish Women's Open Discussion Group. Info: Suzi, 628-4165 or Joanie, 566-2558.

22 saturday

Boston — Disabled Lesbians discussion group. Wheelchair accessible. Info: 524-1142.

23 sunday

Boston — Boycott the **Boston Globe**, sponsored by the Gay & Lesbian Defense Committee. Info: 396-0586.

Boston — "Something About the Women" radio interview with Australian folksinger Judy Small and Senia Mek from SHE band. WMFO FM 91.5. Info: 381-3800.

Calendar compiled by Miranda Kolbe

Notes

passing on the right and other accidents of life (a gay history). Written and performed by Tom Keegan and Davidson Lloyd. Directed by Dan McKereghan. At the Ohio Theater, 66 Wooster St., N.Y.C.

I went to Keegan and Lloyd's new hour-long "performance/theatre work" with high hopes, especially because it begins with a promising idea: to interweave "the personal journey of a gay male couple from East Coast to West, with pieces of gay history recalled and remarked upon as they stop over in various parts of the United States." But *Passing on the Right* was a disappointment.

Using a few ever-rearranging wooden boxes, the two performers act out scenes from their car trip, occasionally interspersing historical facts about gay people, playing other characters, or performing extended sections of stylized movement. This theatrical format is certainly serviceable, but the actual verbal material simply hasn't been explored in ways that would make us sit up and take notice. The overall effect of the piece is bland and curiously lacking in charm and joy. The promise of the tense, mysterious, and funny opening sequence — both men in dark glasses, standing on boxes at opposite sides of the stage, staring out front — is never fulfilled.

To be fair, the night I saw *Passing*, the opening piece on the program had been plagued by power failures — enough to throw any performer off. Having enjoyed Keegan and Lloyd's work in the past, I can only hope that they will relax, then rethink and rework *Passing*, or move on to new and more successful experiments.

max's millions, by Jerry Douglas and Raymond Wood. Directed by Jerry Douglas. At the No Smoking Playhouse, 354 W. 45th St., N.Y.C.

Max's Millions concerns a seedy theatrical agent, Max Van Der Platz (co-author Wood) who faces bankruptcy until the summer evening in 1984 when he signs up blond country boy T.J. Watkins (Michael Quevli), who promptly disappears, only to turn up a week later in L.A. and win an Olympic gold medal for swimming. Watkins returns to New York with his new-found love, wrestler Bognano Bongiovanni (Laurence Schwartz); they are being shadowed by blackmailer Philip Thurston (Adrien Peyroux). Watkins gets cast as Ronald Reagan in a film bio, *Standing Tall*. His fiancee Aurora (Pam Cullea) turns up. Then things start to get complicated.

By now you've guessed that *M's M* is the latest example of that familiar genre, Escapist Gay Farce. As such, it's no worse than most, and superior to many. But even the most outrageous comedy needs some basis in real life; too often, *M's M* seems based more on old stereotypes and gags than on freshly observed human behavior. And the authors have tried so hard to write "escapist" entertainment I ended up being reminded of the very social and political realities they were trying to help me forget. In contrast, writers like Doric Wilson and Victor Bumbalo have shown it's possible to write gay comedies which maintain a shrewd sense of these realities. But I should add that most of the audience seemed to enjoy the show more than I did. (And I should add to that that I was in the minority of people who weren't crazy about *Noises Off*.)

Under co-author Douglas' precise but relentless direction, everyone works hard — a bit too hard. The only performer I enjoyed from beginning to end was Timothy Hall; to his role as a Middle Eastern mystic with a hotline to everyone from Judy Garland to Maria Jeritza, he brought not only comic skill but that greatest of all assets, total belief.

— Nicholas Deutsch

GAY COMMUNITY NEWS

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Gay Community News and **Orson Welles Cinema** present



WED/THURS	DRIFTING EACH OTHER	(Boston Premiere) 4:30, 8:00 2:45, 6:00, 9:45
FRI/SAT	BLACK LIZARD CORRUPT	1:00, 4:30, 8:00 (Boston Premiere) 2:45, 6:15, 9:45
SUN/MON/TUE	SCRUBBERS SCUM	1:15, 4:35, 8:00 (Boston Premiere) 2:55, 6:15, 9:45
WED/THURS	ANOTHER COUNTRY	1:15, 4:35, 8:00
June 12, 13	PRIVATE'S ON PARADE	2:55, 6:15, 9:45
FRI/SAT	BURGER QUEENS OF BERLIN	(Boston Premiere) 1:15, 4:35, 8:00
June 14, 15	TAXI ZUM KLO	2:55, 6:15, 9:45
SUN/MON/TUE	ABUSE CHOOSING CHILDREN	(Boston Premiere) complete shows 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:55
June 16, 17, 18	THE CLINIC TRASH	1:00, 4:25, 7:55 2:40, 6:05, 9:40
FRI/SAT	SALO: 120 Days of Sodom	complete shows
June 21, 22	LOADS	(Boston Premiere) 3:00, 6:00, 9:00
SUN/MON/TUE	MAEDCHEN IN UNIFORM	3:50, 7:55
June 23, 24, 25	THE WOMEN	1:30, 5:30, 9:35
WED/THURS	TIMES OF HARVEY MILK	1:00, 5:00, 8:00
June 26, 27	BURROUGHS	3:30, 6:30, 9:40

The New England Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

Orson Welles Cinema 1001 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge 868-3600